

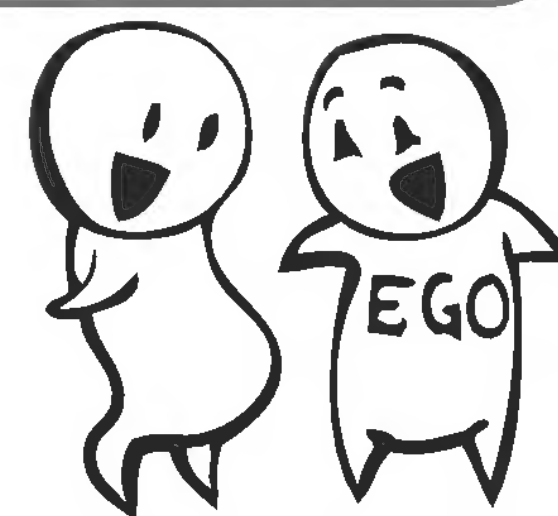
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December 5th, 2012 ■ Issue No. 14 ■ Volume 103

THE gateway

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

A Christmas Carol



FATEMEH MIRI

NEW DEGREE PROGRAM

New radiation therapy degree program to make waves at U of A

Shortage of specialists in province heats up interest in training cancer fighters

Katelyn Hoffart

STAFF REPORTER ■ @KATELYNHOFFART

A new radiation therapy degree program has won approval at the University of Alberta to combat a provincial radiation therapist shortage.

The idea germinated from Alberta's Ministry of Enterprise and Advanced Education in response to the shortage — a problem expected to grow over the next 15 to 20 years. Having been approved at Nov. 28's General Faculties Council Academic Planning Committee (APC) meeting, the university will now be looking for approval from the Ministry and the university's Quality Council. From there, the U of A will be taking steps to secure funding from the government for the \$10.7 million program.

"We're hoping to start the pre-professional year in 2013, and the

government has agreed to expedite the review... I think the commitment over there is to move it forward really quickly," said Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Instruction) Bill Connor.

"Both at the planning level and also the delivery phase, the role of a radiation therapist has become an absolutely critical element in the delivery of cancer therapy."

DR. ALEXANDER MCEWAN
CHAIR, DEPARTMENT OF ONCOLOGY

Alberta Health Services, in conjunction with the Government of

Alberta, currently has a 28-month Radiation Therapy program, but the U of A's proposal will be the first bachelor degree program in the province, as well as the first program to offer a Master's degree.

"Radiation therapy practice has become, over the last 10 or 15 years, very, very much more complex, both at the level of clinical involvement, clinical assessment and management of the patients, to the complexity of the treatments that are given," Chair of the Department of Oncology Dr. Alexander McEwan said during the APC meeting on Nov. 28.

"Both at the planning level and also the delivery phase, the role of a radiation therapist has become an absolutely critical element in the delivery of cancer therapy."

PLEASE SEE RADIATION • PAGE 7

THEATRE PREVIEW

Dickens' A Christmas Carol a Citadel classic

Jennifer Polack

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ■ @JENPOLACK

Ebenezer Scrooge, the cantankerous old man at the centre of the Dickens classic *A Christmas Carol*, isn't exactly the most friendly character in theatre — but that hasn't stopped University of Alberta alumni James MacDonald from developing a bond with the classic curmudgeon, now playing him for the second time in the Citadel's 13th installment of the play. Reflecting on the spirit of the holiday, MacDonald sees Scrooge's very human and relatable personal journey in *A Christmas Carol* as proof that the season can inspire the spirit of welfare and goodwill in even the most cynical of holiday critics.

"I think that at its heart, (A

Christmas Carol) is a universal message play," he says. "It's a good basic reminder to us about the way we should behave not only at Christmas, but all the time."

Over the years, *A Christmas Carol* has solidified its place atop the long list of things to do during Edmonton's holiday season. Its festive message of goodwill and generosity has made it a highly-anticipated local event, despite its longevity on the Citadel's program. MacDonald, in his third year as a cast member of *A Christmas Carol*, says that while a lot of people keep coming back due to the quality of the script and the production, it's most importantly because of the people behind it.

PLEASE SEE SCROOGE • PAGE 17

"Dalhousie gets a puppy room for exam stress. Those lucky bastards."

#3LF
page 11

THE

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colophon

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Eclectic French campus radio show turns 10

Kate Dawson
NEWS WRITER

The title Fourre-Tout — in English, “mixed bag” — is a true reflection of the University of Alberta’s one and only French campus radio show, which turns 10 years old on Dec. 9.

The campus show broadcasts everything from interviews to music and community events — but the road to its current success hasn’t been easy. Since its official start date in 2002, Fourre-Tout’s path has been marked by struggles unique to its heritage.

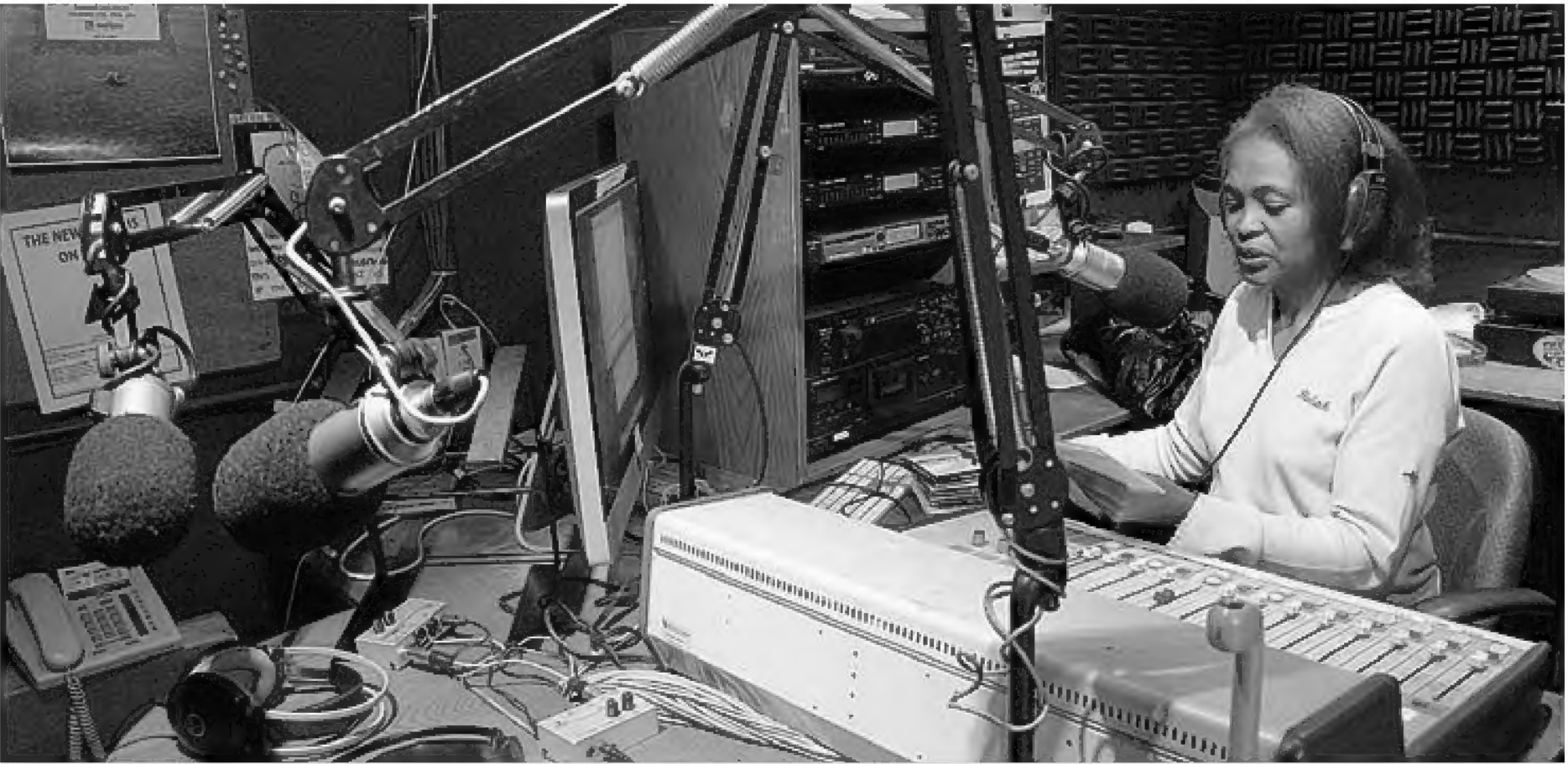
“One of the struggles (is) all the passion you have for your language and culture is not the same that other people have,” explained Chantal Londji Dang, the original producer and current main host of Fourre-Tout.

Dang’s aspiration is to take the French radio show to the next level — broadcasting live to Campus St. Jean and to high schools. She has been involved with CJSR, the University of Alberta’s campus radio station, since 2001, birthing Fourre-Tout from the ashes of a failed bilingual show she was originally brought on board to co-host.

Despite past trouble finding enough DJs to host the show, collaboration with professors from the Faculty of Arts gave students an opportunity to get involved. Some of those students have gone on to pursue careers in journalism and radio.

“(It) was very rewarding to see at least two out of 40, maybe 50 or 60 students that became journalists,” she said.

“It was really touching for me. I didn’t expect them to become journalists or to become hosts.”



RADICAL RADIO Chantal Dang has volunteered with CJSR’s only French radio show for 10 years. AMIRALI SHARIFI

Despite its frequently changing staff, Dang added everyone involved has been working to ensure the show remained sustainable. This cooperation, along with assistance from professors, guaranteed a supply of talent even though student hosts generally did not become permanent members of the show.

“I’m a strong advocate of diversity,” Dang said.

“I’m not talking about race or culture, I’m talking about background ... Diversity means being able to listen to alternative music, reggae, pop, rock, western music — so all types of music. To have hosts that have that taste, because when I’m on air, I’m not necessarily putting on music that you like.”

Dang said this variety in the backgrounds and experiences of the show’s DJs is an integral component of Fourre-Tout’s essence.

“I wanted each student and each person to bring their personal taste and flavour and background and accent, because we’re all different,” she said.

As the current main host of the program, Dang brings her own experiences from living in Africa, France, Quebec and now Alberta to the microphone whenever she goes on air.

With her own background as a news reporter, she was at first unfamiliar with alternative music on which the show built its basis. She has since come to appreciate her new-found knowledge of French music and artists, like Pierre Lapoint and Les Cowboys Fringants, which are not normally found in mainstream culture.

The show broadcasts every Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and focuses on building connections to the Francophone community through alternative French music.

streeters

COMPILED + PHOTOGRAPHED BY Katelyn Hoffart + Selena Phillips-Boyle



Sarah Nowoselsky ARTS II

“Go for my birthday dinner, because my last exam is on my birthday.”



Noushin Miasdashi ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING II

“We don’t have exams because we’re second-year Masters’ students, but I have plans to go skiing, skating, anything you can do in Edmonton.”



Ghazaleh Hagighat CHEMICAL ENGINEERING II

“Going out to concerts and movies.”



Kaitlyn Little SCIENCE II

“Go home and get a home-cooked meal.”



Movember ‘12: The Gateway Victorious!

After a month of pushing the limits of social decency, The Gateway team proved the more moustachtacular men. The stakes were high, for the stakes were literally steaks.

Unavailable due to cowardice

Saadiq Sumar

Check out



to see intrepid reporter Kate Black’s coverage of the epic contest that was Movember ‘12

Campaign presses students to de-stress for exam success

Andrea Ross
NEWS STAFF • @ANDREAROSS123

From impromptu yoga sessions to improv comedy, the University of Alberta has scheduled two weeks of events to help stressed students unwind during exam season.

Expanding on last year's successful debut, Unwind Your Mind is returning to campus until Dec. 11 with fresh ideas for managing exam-time stress. Created by University Wellness Services' Health and Wellness Team, this event will cater to all students by featuring free yoga, healthy snacks, improv comedy, musical events and pet therapy at eight participating libraries across campus.

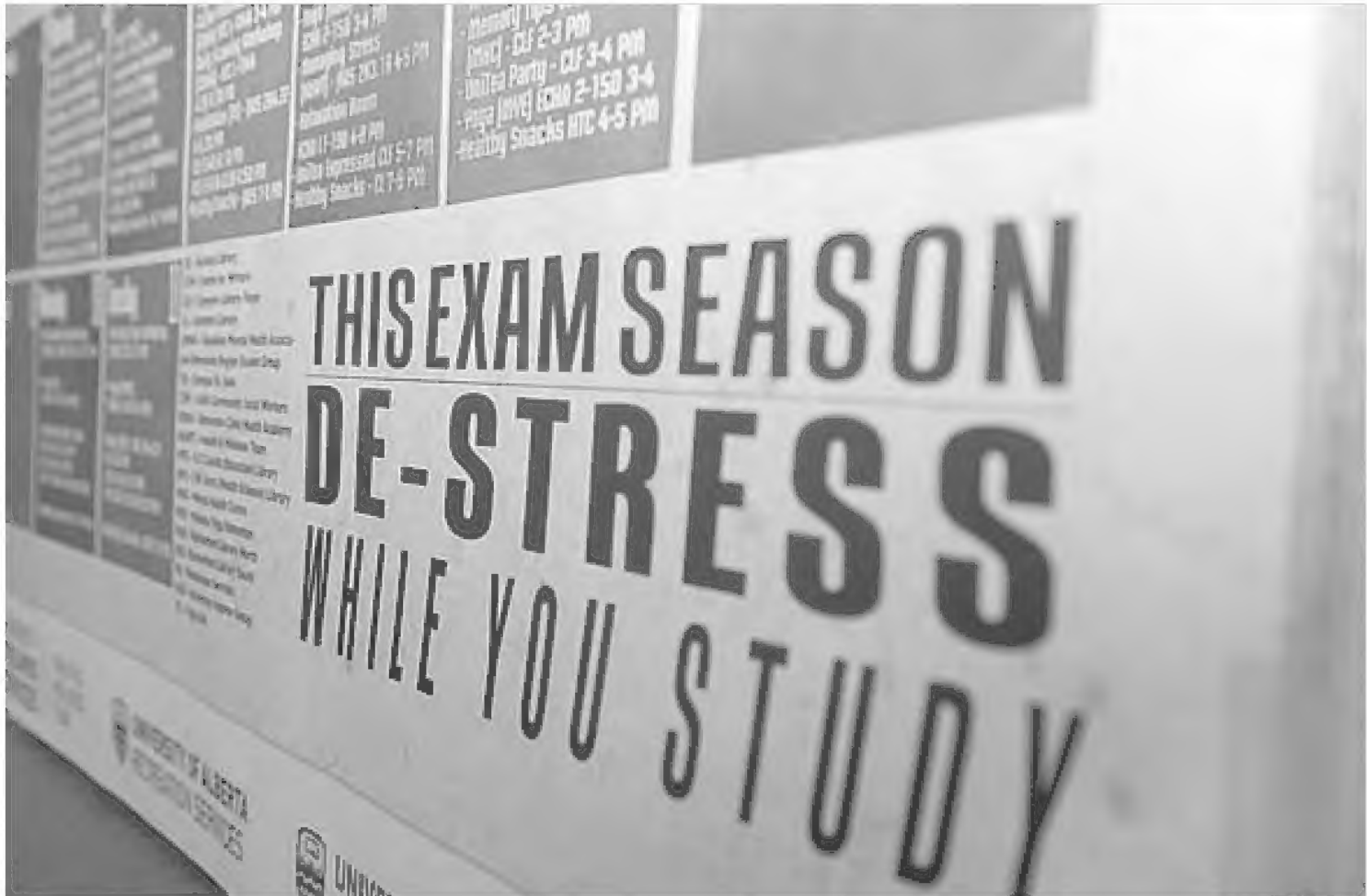
Jamie Desautels, third-year nutrition student and facilitator of Unwind Your Mind, believes stress management is the key to exam success.

"One section that we have added to this semester's events is the stress relief section. We have a relaxation room where students can come in while they are studying, take a break, watch TV, have some snacks," Desautels said.

"When you're cramming right before an exam you might hold in the information short-term, but being able to relax and allow your brain to recuperate and allow everything to process definitely helps with retaining information."

Along with an emphasis on mental health and relaxation, the event also focuses on the importance of good nutrition and physical well-being. This year, Unwind Your Mind is reaching out to students by offering nutrition workshops and healthy snacks like fruit, granola bars and juice boxes.

Saadq Sumar, Students' Union vice-president (Student Life), also



GRIFF CORNWALL

emphasized the importance of healthy eating, and offered some exam advice of his own.

"Making sure that you're eating right is huge — what you put into your body is what you get out of it," Sumar said.

"The other thing I remember when I was a kid is that chewing also helps your thought process. So I always tend to bring a pack of gum to exams, 'cause it helps get the gears moving."

Due to miscommunication, the SU is not one of the organizations backing Unwind Your Mind. However, they will be offering other activities during exam time, like movie marathons in the Myer Horowitz Theatre. Sumar envisions a future partnership between the Students' union and the facilitators of Unwind Your Mind, and is enthusiastic about the events offered — particularly the physical activities like yoga.

"I think taking time for yourself, doing some physical activity, is never a bad thing. After you've finished a full eight hours of studying, it's a nice, easy way to take a break," he said.

Having lived in Lister Centre for five years, one of Sumar's favourite ways to indulge in a study break is through dodgeball, as he believes it "always gets your stress and your rage out."

Though Unwind Your Mind has no such scheduled high-intensity activities, the variety, frequency, and diverse location of events allows all students the opportunity to relieve stress through relaxation.

"(I suggest attending) all the Unwind Your Mind events, because they are all great. But other things (you) can do is first off to make sure to prep properly for (your) exams, making sure (you) put in the time to study, but also the time for relaxation and taking a mental break once in a while," Sumar said.

"People tackle stress in different ways, and I think what the University Wellness Services and all their partners are doing by providing a diverse sea of events is great."

Students can access an itinerary for Unwind Your Mind at studenthealth.ualberta.ca, on Facebook, Twitter (@uofhawt) and on all faculty department websites.

Committee crusades for budget stability

Michelle Mark
ONLINE REPORTER • @MAMARKE

A newly formed committee is pulling together academic staff across the university community to combat the budgetary crisis currently forcing the University of Alberta to tighten its purse strings.

Ten academic staff members have recently been jointly appointed to the Renaissance Committee by the Board of Governors and the Association of Academic Staff University of Alberta (AASUA). The committee's mandate is to devise a cut to the consolidated institutional plan's budget and a set of recommendations throughout the next year to resolve some of the budgetary pressures applied by cost increases.

Committee co-chair Ian MacLaren said the group will also examine academically related processes regarding the ways in which the work of academic staff is evaluated and rewarded, and the possible establishment of a stream of teaching-intensive academic staff.

"We're trying to figure out what's best for professors. The committee wants to ask this question of professors: does the current process of annual evaluations produce the kind of professor that we want to be? And the kind of professor that the U of A and its students most need?" MacLaren said.

"This committee is looking only at the academic side of things, and in particular, the pressures exerted by salary and seeing what can be

done in terms of the annual review of professors' work that might bear or might not bear fully on being able to contribute to a solution on budget pressures."

The Renaissance Committee will be holding regular meetings with reported outcomes throughout the year, during which they will be working to submit a draft of proposals for Nov. 1, 2013 to the AASUA Council and the Board of Governors.

"The committee can only make proposals," MacLaren said. "It doesn't have any authorization to make changes. And those proposals have to be approved by AASUA and the Board of Governors, and only if they succeed in being approved could they be implemented."

In an attempt to create proposals that represent all academic staff and the interests of the university, MacLaren said the committee has appointed a variety of academic staff, including assistant, associate and full professors from multiple faculties.

"We looked for and we think we got people who are capable of imaginative thinking, thinking beyond the current set of circumstances that we're in, and who are disinterested — that is, not determined to grind a particular axe in looking at particular problems or challenges with respect to annual evaluations or the way in which professors are paid, or any other matter that might come up," MacLaren said.

"The job of the committee isn't to

persuade everyone of one particular view. It's to outline what the options might be, and to try and determine — and this is a possibility — if what we have in place now is the best practice around the country."

The AASUA has now posted an in-depth document on its website regarding the role of the Renaissance Committee, but some academic staff members are still wary of it.

"I think the charge of vagueness might well issue from the fact that this committee isn't restricting itself to only a few lines of inquiry. If it thinks it should look at something, then it will," MacLaren explained.

"Generally speaking, I don't have a lot of patience for the criticism at the outset of an initiative, that something is vague. That criticism could be leveled at anybody, at any time, at anything. So I think the criticism is without merit."


Although he says there is no point speculating at this time in the Renaissance Committee's life, MacLaren expects it to have a high profile once wheels start turning.

"(The committee) wants to do its work transparently, number one. It wants to engage the wide academic community on campus, number two. Number three, it wants to explore opportunities to reform aspects of the U of A that have never undergone reform, at a time when the crisis in first world post-secondary education is proving threatening in a lot of jurisdictions," he said.

"What we see here is an opportunity; everyone else sees a crisis."

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Alumni Asked & ANSWERED

WITH

Kristine Owram
BA '06

Current occupation: Journalist,
Business News Network.

Favourite campus memory? Late
nights spent in the *Gateway* offices that
somehow always ended in RATT.

**What's the one piece of advice you'd
give a current U of A student?** Don't
just go to class and go home. Get
involved in something you care about.

Biggest life lesson learned on campus?
Stress can be manageable and even fun.

**Favourite secret makeout spot
on campus?** The elevator in Stadium
Car Park.

Favourite course/teacher? Any British
history course taught by Jane Samson.

**If you got one university do-over, what
would it be?** Now that I'm a business
reporter, I wish I took more economics
classes!



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ualberta.ca/alumni/students

Sustainability series brings economic activist to campus

Gina Wicentowich
NEWS WRITER

Energy enthusiasts piled into the Myer Horowitz Theatre last Thursday to hear award-winning author Thomas Homer-Dixon discuss how Alberta can find resilience in the current climate and energy crisis.

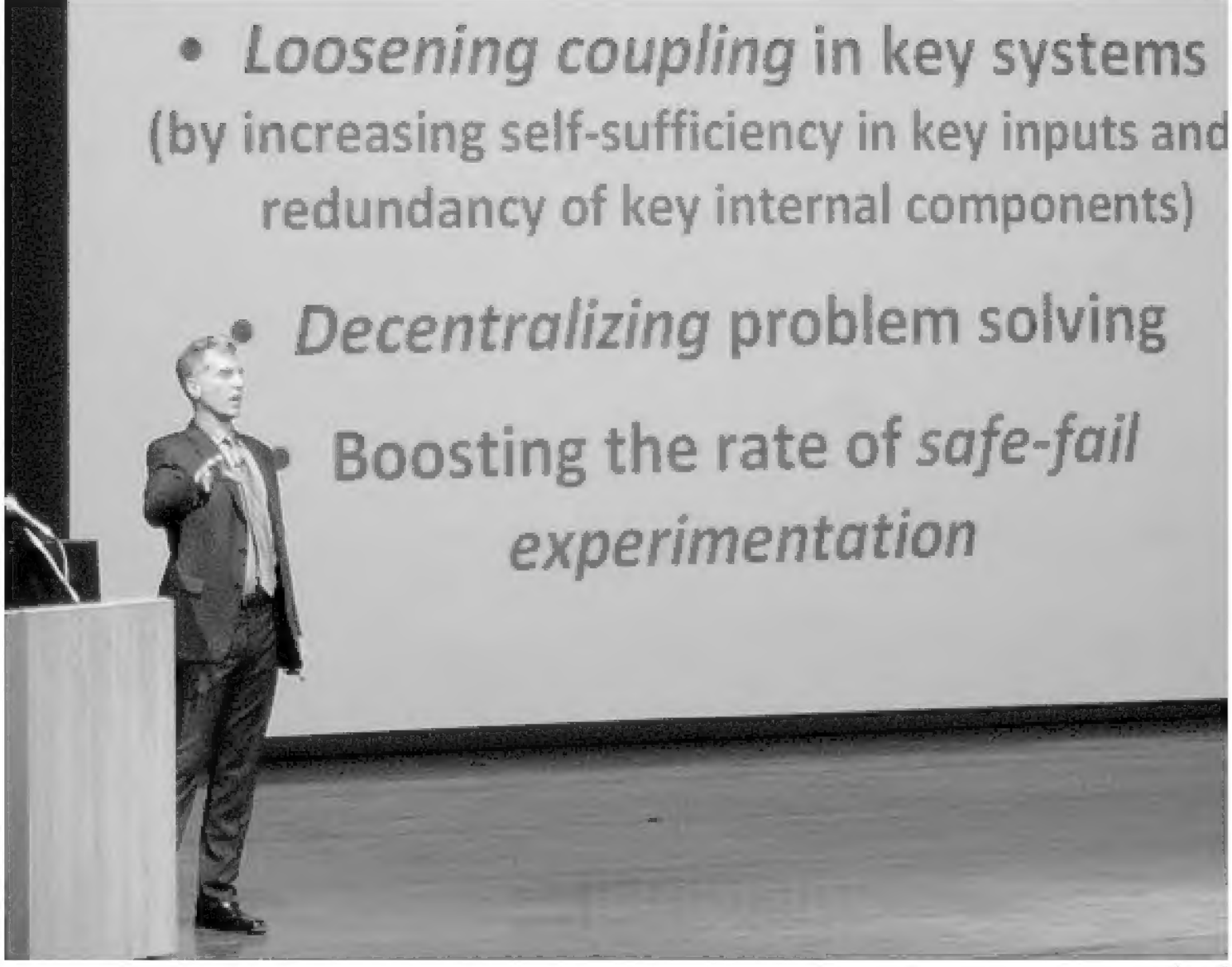
Marking the launch of the 2012-13 Sustainability Speaker Series, Homer-Dixon's talk coincided with a living art display in the Myer Horowitz lobby — creations from University of Alberta students whose medium was everyday items normally thrown in a landfill, such as car parts, bikes, water jugs, pop cans, newspapers and computer chips. The Energy Management Fund and Campus Food Bank were also on hand to educate guests on small steps they can take to be more environmentally conscious.

Homer-Dixon is the author of *The Upside of Down: Catastrophe, Creativity, and the Renewal of Civilization* — a book that hit number one on the Maclean's non-fiction best-seller's list. He is also a professor at the University of Waterloo and the Director of the Waterloo Institute for Complexity and Innovation. His research has centred on modern threats to international security like economic instability and energy scarcity.

"Alberta has a really big challenge in front of it and some very important decisions to make," Homer-Dixon said.

"The province is not engaging with the way the world is changing. It needs to start thinking about what it's going to do next. Alberta is not prepared for the new world — it's producing a product that's making problems worse."

Alberta's reliance on its fossil



YIFENG LIU

fuels is problematic in the changing international landscape, according to Homer-Dixon, who believes the controversy over the newest oil pipeline is a testament to Albertans' emerging interest on questions of sustainability and the future for the province.

"I'm really interested in the constant relationship between nature and society — how society affects nature and how nature affects society," he explained.

"I'm also interested in what makes people fight and allows people to do horrendous things to each other. Ultimately, I'm interested in how stresses — energy change, climate change, and fossil fuels — can lead to problems like violence, civil breakdown and societal collapse."

Albertan and Canadian dependence on oil is creating the framework for moments of contingency, or what Homer-Dixon refers to as "shocks." Instead of micro-managing, Alberta needs to diversify its

knowledge and investments.

Homer-Dixon said this includes prioritizing railroads, electricity, the internal combustion engine, personal computers, and green energy technologies — instead of focusing on the oil fields and energy systems Alberta needs to create decentralized energy production.

Homer-Dixon said he came to the University of Alberta in the hope to get his message across about the importance of sustainability for Alberta's economic and social future.

"I want to have a conversation with Albertans. I'm very fond of this province — I come as a friend and as a constructive critic. I've had conversations with senior people and political actors over the years. It alarms me that some things are not changing as fast as they need to change," he said.

The next talk in the Sustainability Speaker Series will be with Raj Patel on January 30th, 2013.

campus crimebeat

COMPILED BY **April Hudson**

SNOOZIN' AND BOOZIN'

At 4:45 a.m. on Nov. 23, university staff reported a male sleeping inside the west entrance to Schaffer Hall in Lister Centre.

Officers arrived and spoke with an intoxicated non-affiliated male who was well-known to UAPS and had previously been removed from campus.

He was transported to a shelter downtown without incident.

JEDI KNIGHT

At 8:05 a.m. on Nov. 23, UAPS officers responded to a report of a male in Quad waving what was possibly a sword.

The Edmonton Police Service was notified to attend. However, when officers arrived, the male was swinging a toy light-sabre as he was practicing martial arts.

IDENTITY THEFT

On the morning of Nov. 23, staff from the Phys. Ed. Building alerted UAPS to a parking permit theft that happened the previous evening.

Apparently, a male came to the equipment desk and identified himself as a referee for a hockey game.

He then produced a driver's license in exchange for a parking permit from the staff.

Shortly after, the two actual referees arrived, and staff realized the male had just stolen the pass.

The driver's license he left as collateral was also determined to have been stolen. EPS is investigating.

SECURITY BREACH

Just before noon on Nov. 24, UAPS officers responded to a reported theft from the men's locker room in the Van Vliet Centre.

A guest on campus had put his bag in an unlocked locker for two or three minutes while using the washroom, only to discover it stolen upon his return.

The estimated value of the contents was more than \$800. If you witness any suspicious persons or activity near campus lockers, please contact UAPS at 492-5050.

CATCHING SOME Z'S

At 12:26 a.m. on Nov. 25, officers were patrolling the University Terrace Building Parkade when they observed a person sleeping in the bottom of a stairwell.

The non-affiliated male was identified and issued a provincial summons for trespassing. He was subsequently directed off university property.

REPEAT OFFENDER

Just after 5 a.m. on Nov. 26, a cleaner alerted UAPS to a suspicious male roaming around the University Terrace Building. Officers located the male sleeping in a stairwell.

He had been dealt with more than a dozen times for sleeping in

university buildings.

He was arrested on an outstanding provincial warrant and turned over to the EPS. He was also issued a provincial summons for trespassing.

BLADDER CONTROL

At 11:17 p.m. on Nov. 26, a UAPS officer on routine patrol of Cameron Library located a male urinating in the stairwell.

The male had no university affiliation and was intoxicated. He was initially uncooperative, and refused to identify himself.

He was eventually identified and determined to have numerous outstanding warrants.

He was arrested for an outstanding provincial warrant and turned over to the EPS. He was also formally trespassed from campus property.

CAMPUS PERV

On Nov. 28 at approximately 11 a.m., a female student reported being followed by a male while walking from the Fine Arts Building towards International House.

The male was muttering to himself and eventually stopped the student and asked her for her phone number.

The student politely refused, but the male then asked if she wanted to join him while he "relieved himself" in the washroom.

The student immediately left to contact UAPS. Officers arrived but could not locate the male. He is described as Caucasian, 6'2", tall, slim build with scarring on his face, and was wearing an orange toque.

Mountain gurus gather to dispel myths and celebrate adventure

Katelyn Hoffart

STAFF REPORTER • @KATELYNHOFFART

Stories of fear and curiosity filled CCIS on Nov. 29 as members of the university community made the hike to hear mountain experts tell interactive tales of their experiences.

The Creative Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Annual Lecture, titled Mountains: Myth and Materiality, drew a modest crowd to hear short presentations from four faculty members regarding creative and research initiatives spanning a variety of disciplines focused on perspectives and experiences surrounding the mountains. Each presenter brought in a material object that represented the mountains to them relating to their subject area.

Author and Associate Professor in the Department of English and Film Studies Thomas Wharton started off the presentations with his essay on his fear of bears. He began his talk with a string of Tibetan prayer flags used for mountain climbs. This was the object he took with him on his hike down the Crypt Lake Trail near Waterton, as a memorial for where a woman was killed by a bear.

Despite growing up in Jasper, hearing stories like these made Wharton fear taking the solitary walks through the wilderness that he once loved. However, he said he had come to learn that fear is part of what makes adventure and what is so appealing about the mountains.

"The fear heightens one's senses, one's alertness, one's awareness of being alive, and all of the more positive emotions that go along with being in the mountains are heightened as a result too," Wharton said.

"We need to have fear, it seems, to have the exhilaration."

The next presenter to take the floor was Colleen Skidmore, Faculty of Arts professor, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Academic). As a photographic historian, Skidmore drew on the subject matter in the book *In search of Maligne Lake* on Mary Schaffer's travels to find this place near Jasper.



MOVING MOUNTAINS Professors congregated to share mountain tales. SELENA PHILLIPS-BOYLE

She delved into the history of Schaffer setting out to survey the lake, and went into how the photographs and maps were visualized as ideas and representations rather than just an image.

"While photographs are often understood and received to be objective historical documentation of a person place or thing, it is rarely that simple," Skidmore said.

"The angle of view that a photographer casts on a scene in which the photograph is presented, the context in which it is seen or discussed and the questions or expectations that the viewer brings to the image are elements of the imagined or the imaginative."

Julie Rak, a professor in the Department of English and Film Studies, followed Skidmore's speech by placing a climbing rope on the table in front of the audience.

She explained the rope was a symbol of brotherhood that connected mountaineers, and delved into classic romantic ideas about the self and mountain climbing.

"(It) becomes the sign of a host of social ideas about what climbing is, about who gets to climb and what good and bad climbing (is) like," Rak said.

"These are ideas connected to

climbing as a culture as well as an activity, contained within this formation are ideas about gender and politics; ideas which became attenuated in the 1950s with the rope between masculinity that we can see in the invention of the phrase 'the brotherhood of the rope.'"

Last to present during the lecture was alpine historian Zak Robinson, assistant professor in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation.

He brought out his "favourite book" *Where the Clouds Can Go*, writings from Canadian mountain guide Conrad Kain.

Robinson noted the importance of the book for its alternative representation of mountaineering during the time as elite expensive wanderings; rather, this was an account written by an immigrant who lived a hard life trying to establish a career as a mountain guide.

"This is a really important publication that widened the view of Canada's Western mountains that were so fairly narrowly constrained — figuratively anyways — as a landscape of leisure, as a landscape of pleasure and fantasy, rather than a productive labour," Robinson said.

The lecturers were all part of the university's Canadian Mountain Studies Initiative.

LIFE, LIBERTY AND THE PURSUIT OF VENGEANCE

THE NEW FILM BY QUENTIN TARANTINO

JAMIE FOXX
CHRISTOPH WALTZ
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news brief

COMPILED BY **April Hudson**

'NAVA-HOES' A NO-NO

The Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity has issued an apology and cancelled a party titled "Western Bros and Nava-hoes," following a flurry of angry responses from University of Alberta activists.

The party was originally designed as a fundraiser to be held at The Ranch Roadhouse. After receiving a message from an offended Edmonton blogger, The Ranch Roadhouse replied the name was intended to be a "funplay off words." However, once the U of A Native Studies Students' Association (NSSA) got wind of it, the DKEs decided to cancel the party.

Although the DKEs could not be reached for comment, Aboriginal Student Group President Gail Gallagher said fraternity president Peter Alexander contacted her to apologize.

"He gave a personal (apology) for any offence their group's event may have caused and thanked us for bringing this to their attention," Gallagher wrote on the NSSA's Facebook page.

"The event is cancelled, there were no posters, and all tickets

have been cancelled. In addition, their fraternity is undergoing cultural sensitivity training by one of their former alumni who is Aboriginal."

Students' Union Native Studies councilor Quetzala Carson said she thinks more needs to be done to address the issue.

"Once you understand that there are over 500 missing and murdered Aboriginal women in Canada, you understand that these jokes, these sexual puns you can make with indigenous nations' names, are completely inappropriate," she said.

"I don't think (the DKEs) intentionally wanted to be super racist ... (but) they as individuals need to understand why what they did is so negative for the rest of the university community."

Carson said the initial reaction from the NSSA after hearing about the event wasn't angry, even though the U of A hosts Navajo students from New Mexico. She added this is a good example of why Native Studies exists — to inform Albertan and Canadian society about Aboriginal culture, and thus prevent such events from being acceptable.

"This is such a small thing, but it's a big part of the way society functions," she explained.

"I think there needs to be some serious circumstances for the students who decided to create this, because it's straight-up hate. It's like (saying), 'What's up, we're having a party this weekend — get your blackface on!' It's like having a party and putting strips of tape out so people tape their eyes to be more slanted. It's not acceptable, and it affects students at the University of Alberta directly."

NSSA president Kirsten Lindquist released an official response to the party's name on Nov. 29, which condemned the event as an appropriation and misuse of indigenous culture.

"The attitude surrounding this event represents the ignorance of Indigenous issues, peoples, and students on UAlberta campus, and unfortunately the Canadian public in general," Lindquist wrote.

"Although the Ranch Roadhouse and the DKEs may claim ignorance regarding their actions with this event, they are now knowledgeable of the seriousness of embedded racism and cultural appropriation, and it is their responsibility to act accordingly with this information in the future."

The DKE fraternity is not currently affiliated with the University of Alberta, after receiving a five-year suspension in 2011.



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New bill to address concerns of academic study for caregivers

Philippe de Montigny
NEWS WRITER • @MPDEMONTI

Alberta may finally catch up to the rest of the Canadian provinces with a private member's bill seeking to address the needs of middle-aged caregivers looking after elderly relatives and friends while holding down jobs.

A new study from the University of Alberta has found more than 60 per cent of Canadian caregivers 45 and older are employed, which is taxing for them and their employers and leads to an average of 1.5 million workdays missed every month. While federal legislation currently gives workers up to eight weeks unpaid leave to tend to a dying spouse, parent or child — with employment insurance benefits — Alberta employees still have no legislated guarantee of getting their job back after returning from leave.

In early November, Progressive Conservative MLA for Edmonton-South West Matt Jeneroux proposed Bill 203 on compassionate care leave. If passed, the bill will enable Albertans to take their eight-week leave and return to their jobs with their wage, seniority and benefits unaffected. The second reading of Bill 203 should happen in early December.

"The key to alleviating the economic impacts of compassionate caregiving lies in part with instilling employee loyalty, which Bill 203 seeks to do by encouraging employee protection and retention," Jeneroux said.

"In addition, the healthcare system benefits greatly if compassionate caregivers are free to complete their



COMPASSIONATE CARE Janet Fast spearheaded a study on caregivers. SELENA PHILLIPS-BOYLE

duties. This frees up resources and personnel for the public system."

Economist Janet Fast, principal investigator for the research study on caregivers and professor in the U of A's Human Ecology Department, has been closely following the bill's progress through the legislature.

"The compassionate care leave and benefits are pretty minimal. It's a very short leave — probably much shorter than would be optimal — but it's a foot in the door," she said.

During interviews for her study, Fast found many Canadian employers giving maternity and parental leave benefits but no provisions for compassionate care leaves. She advocates for longer, more flexible leaves for a wider range of caregivers.

"In a single year, hours lost to absenteeism and reduced work hours alone translated into productivity losses for Canadian businesses equivalent to the work of 157,000 full-time employees," she explained.

Fast stressed that, beyond the amount of responsibilities faced by caretakers, care tasks are becoming more complex. The current healthcare paradigm expects some caregivers — mostly women — to perform

catheterization, renal dialysis and to administer intravenous drugs.

Employers are also facing costs associated with employee turnover, absenteeism and distracted and therefore less productive workers who may be costing the company sales or customers.

Using data from a 2007 General Social Survey, Fast spearheaded her three-year study in collaboration with researchers from the University of Guelph, the University of Manitoba, McGill University and the Vanier Institute of the Family in Ottawa.

The authors have already presented some of their findings, attracting international attention. In June 2013, Fast's team will be presenting its research at the next World Congress of the International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics in Seoul.

"Caregiving is just a natural part of social, family life," Fast said. "But there are ways in which it can affect us negatively. With supportive workplace and public policies, we can make the job easier."

Full reports from the study still cannot be divulged to the public due to a non-disclosure agreement with the financing agency.

Proposed degree program getting widespread support

RADIATION • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The expected government funding will cover essential costs associated with running and staffing the program, and key equipment needed to train those in the program. This includes a VERT simulation system — a 3D virtual linear accelerator that will give students the training and practice necessary before using a real simulator at the Cross Cancer Institute, which the program will work very closely with.

"It's a relatively new program ... we really had to sort of invent it."

BILL CONNOR
VICE-PROVOST (ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND INSTRUCTION)

Students will be required to undergo a pre-professional year before applying to the degree program, which will accept approximately 15 applicants in during its inaugural year. From 2015-2018, the program is expected to expand its student count to 20 per year.

"We have built within the program a fairly extensive clinical component that will prepare our graduates for a Master's and allow practice training before," McEwan said.

The program will essentially cover four key areas needed to give thorough understanding and training in radiation therapy. The first is in medical physics — which will include the operation of radiation equipment — and the second will include cancer biology and radiobiology.

Clinical training will also be

provided, where students will practice, do patient treatment planning and learn how to handle patients using the equipment provided. The other component will be in anatomy, where innovative courses in cross-sectioning radiology and anatomy will be offered.

"We have an opportunity here to build an international program," said McEwan, who believes that using the latest state-of-the-art technology and teaching practices will make the program thrive.

The program has received stated support from a variety of institutions and organizations like Alberta Health Services, the Canadian Association of Medical Technologies, and the Alberta College of Medical Diagnostic and Therapeutic Technologies.

There are currently 187 practicing radiology therapists in the province between the ages of 22 and 65, with many more new positions that will open up in the future. Cancer centres in Red Deer and Grande Prairie will be opening within the next five years, and the Tom Baker Cancer Centre and Cross Cancer Institute are also undergoing expansion starting as early as next year.

"I don't think we have a lot of Bachelor of Science degrees in the Faculty of Medicine, and that's one of the interesting things about creating it. It's a relatively new program ... we really had to sort of invent it," Connor said.

More information about the program can be found on the University's Governance website under the GFC ASC Motion and Final Document Summary.

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Volunteer

Opinion meetings Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Deke Aboriginal appropriation crosses the line

FOR ALL OUR MODERN DAY PROGRESSIVENESS, IT'S NO SECRET that racism and cultural appropriation still happen all around us. Still, most of us should know not to offend other cultures and to show them the proper respect they deserve.

But clearly, not everyone has gotten the message. This past week, Aboriginal students groups at the University of Alberta became enraged at the news that the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity, currently suspended from the U of A, was planning an event at The Ranch Roadhouse called "Western Bros and Nava-Hoes." Claiming that the name, which culturally appropriates the Navajo Nation, cast a sexualized light on Aboriginal peoples, students took to social media to voice their concern and the event was eventually cancelled.

While its cancellation may appear to settle the matter, the incident brings local relevance to a much bigger issue plaguing our society: cultural appropriation. If there's one thing this last week has shown, it's that some of our society is still very much ignorant of not only indigenous issues, but also the serious effects that racism and cultural appropriation can have, no matter what the initial intention is. While the President of Delta Kappa Epsilon has since apologized and has said that the fraternity will be undergoing cultural sensitivity training by one of their Aboriginal alumni, one can only hope they will come to understand the full extent of their actions. Appropriating the name of an Indigenous nation is bad enough, but sexualizing Indigenous women for the sake of a party takes it yet another step too far. With more than 500 missing and murdered Aboriginal women in Canada alone due in part to sexual violence, it's a subject that hits far too close to home.

Unfortunately, this incident with the DKE fraternity is only a small part of a much bigger cultural problem. In addition to this local event, several clothing companies have been thrown into the spotlight recently for their controversial decision to appropriate indigenous culture into their designs. Earlier this year, the Navajo Nation sued popular clothing store Urban Outfitters Inc. after sending a cease and desist letter to the company demanding that it stop using the name "Navajo" on it's products. Even as recently as last month, lingerie company Victoria's Secret came under fire for attiring one of their models at the Victoria's Secret Fashion Show with a Native American head-dress — and little else.

Of course, while the issue is getting plenty of attention now thanks to the actions of these companies, indigenous appropriation has been around for a long time. Most people are all too familiar with the "Sexy Native American Halloween costume" that comes up every year, and sports teams like the Cleveland Indians and the Washington Redskins have been using their culturally insensitive team names since 1914 and 1926, respectively. Although not strictly cultural appropriation, these teams use outdated and inappropriate terms for Native Americans.

Some might argue that using a cultural symbol on clothing or a sports team is a sign of our progressive society embracing another culture rather than shying away from it. However, when it casts a negative or derogatory light on that culture, it's not acceptable.

While incidents like what happened with the fraternity and the clothing companies are undoubtedly unacceptable and concerning, there's hope that the resulting reaction of disapproval will spur more cultural sensitivity in the future. As much as we can disapprove of the unfortunate name choice for the DKE fraternity event, we can take pride in the public outcry against it from students and surrounding communities. With increased awareness comes action, and we can only hope that these occurrences will act as a learning experience for everyone who hears them.

Alana Willerton
ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR

EDITORIAL HAIKU

It's definitely not the most wonderful time of the year for me to spread cheer

Christmas is now here.
I should spread holiday cheer
I'd rather drink beer

Darcy Ropchan
THE JOLLY CHRISTMAS ELF EDITOR

KIM JONG UN WAS RECENTLY DECLARED "SEXIEST MAN ALIVE" BY THE ONION, AND THANKS TO 4CHAN CURRENTLY LEADS THE POLL FOR TIME'S "PERSON OF THE YEAR."



LUCKILY, SARCASM IS FORBIDDEN IN NORTH KOREA

ANTHONY GOERTZ

letters to the editor

FROM THE WEB

The punishment fits the crime in Lister theft

(Re: "Lister residents face eviction following break-in at Marina," by April Hudson, Nov. 28)

I've lived in Lister for a total of three awesome years, I can honestly say it is an excellent community. To this day I still recommend Lister to potential first-years and I'm never afraid to defend Lister's mores and traditions to those outside who mock the great place in which we live.

My time in Lister did overlap with Kody's and I can say, that he certainly did represent both the LHSA and RS in many different ways. When I heard about what happened to Kody and Matt I was shocked, not knowing either of them personally but knowing 'who they were' I couldn't believe either of them would be involved in an act of theft (or accessory to the fact — I'll let 'Zoltar the Philosophying Wolf' figure that one out).

As the facts came to light I started to see a very different depiction of Kody, instead of admitting his guilt and accepting a reasonable punishment (which I'm sure didn't start out as eviction if he would have come clean) he denied any involvement until rumours of the video began to surface in which he, to this day has given contradictory evidence of his role in the theft. I'm not going to get into this because frankly, I don't care; you were there, you knew what was going on and you failed to stop it.

Lister can be a very powerful sword

to yield (as every Listerite knows), it's won SU elections and garnered support far and wide for just about anything you can name. One must handle this sword CAREFULLY and with grace. Kody on the other hand, is using this sword to overwhelm reason and fact to present himself as an innocent student thrown under the wheel of the oppressive juggernaut that is Res Services. I don't disagree that Res Services is an oppressive juggernaut.

Now, for those of you who don't know, it is the tower VP's duty to hand out punishments for infractions of the Lister code of conduct (I forget the exact name).

So, how would it look if you're getting dealt six hours of community service for having an open can of beer in the elevator by a guy who was involved in a criminal act? Yeah.. exactly.

Now think about it from Res Services point of view, you hire this person to be the judge and jury of the common laws and he's not only involved in this kind of situation, he's doing everything he can to weasel his way out of the responsibility of his actions.

It's no wonder to me that people roll their eyes and administration turns an iron fist on Lister when these sorts of things are going on.

So, Kody, I'm sorry but you've erased your good deeds in the minds of many who now see you as a whiny cry baby who broke the rules helping a friend nab a protein bar or two. There's some good advice in the earlier comments, maybe you should take it.

"Ex-Listerite"
VIA WEB

Better role models are needed to set example

(Re: "Lister residents face eviction following break-in at Marina," by April Hudson, Nov. 28)

Maybe there would be less problems if the student leaders were better role models. The RA on my floor has been practically sober since the beginning of the year and doesn't engage in irresponsible behavior. But in the past two months the OV's and FC have been caught with open alcohol in the lounge. Tell me how res services failed with this

"Concerned Listerite"
VIA WEB

Moncrief is responsible for his own actions

(Re: "Lister residents face eviction following break-in at Marina," by April Hudson, Nov. 28)

Great article, however it was accompanied with a heap of immature, poorly crafted and ill-informed responses. Listerites, if you think you understand because you live (or lived) in Lister, grow up. Think about the structure of student leadership, prior contract requirements of the positions, and atmosphere of the lister residence. Mr. Moncrief was an elected leader, and as a student leader he should have taken the position seriously to understanding what his role meant. Part of the position is having an understanding that sticking up to your friends will inevitably have to

PLEASE SEE **LETTERS** • PAGE 9

Forced revealing of anonymous sperm donations hard to swallow



Adrian Lahola-Chomiak
OPINION STAFF

Sperm and egg donation is probably the only respectable way to have kids who don't know who you are. However, Olivia Pratten, a woman fighting to end the anonymity of sperm and egg donations would like to see that change by removing the anonymity protections for gamete donors. As it stands, there is no obligation for clinics to reveal the identity of donors to their children, which means that donors can remain anonymous. Pratten's legal action in the Supreme Court to reverse the promise of anonymity has the potential to drastically change the donor-child relationship for the worse.

Pratton has been successful in a British Columbia court, getting a judge to order her proposed amendments to the Adoption Act. But the BC Court of Appeals reversed its decision, and Pratton is now planning to take the case to the Supreme Court. Her proposed changes would force doctors to keep donor records which children of those donors could access once of age. Currently, children receive little, if any information about their donor parents because keeping records is not mandated by law.

Rather than pushing for just medically relevant information to be available, Pratten is also hoping to remove the protections for anonymity. Some might argue this would discourage donation, Pratten rightly points out that countries like Australia and Sweden, which do not conceal donor identity, saw an initial dip in donations which eventually stabilized. The bigger issue is that it can force donors in uncomfortable relationships with their biological children. The child of a sperm donor may want a relationship with



SUPPLIED

their donor parent, but that sentiment may not be felt on both sides. Donors have no control over who their gametes go to or when the actual fertilization occurs, so it seems unfair to put their identity out there without their consent.

Imagine getting a call or email from your donor child out of the blue. This could be a huge problem for donors who make multiple donations and have those donations used for multiple inseminations. Unlike sexually conceived children or those put up for adoption, donors have no personal connection to the child beyond providing genetic content. Anonymity protects the donors and allows for clinics to distribute donations based on demand, without worrying about putting one person in an awkward position. If Pratten is successful in the Supreme Court, it could change the risks and obligations for donors.

Pratten makes a good point about access to medically relevant information. Currently, children are lucky to receive superficial information about their donor parent. As our understanding of medicine has evolved over the past decades, it has become more and more clear that a person's ancestry has a significant impact on their health. Many ailments, from cancers to chronic diseases, have been shown to have

at least a partial genetic basis. For children, having access to their parent's medically relevant information could make a huge difference. Maintaining detailed medical records for donors and making those available to children is far more important than fighting to reverse the promise of anonymity.

Reversing that promise has the potential to put donors in awkward relationships, but making medical records available to children to expand their rights in a useful way harms nobody. Forcing clinics to maintain the records wouldn't be too much of a burden, because generally the relevant information is collected to ensure that donors are suitable. The only step they would have to take is maintaining a database and coordinating a way for the children to access it. This system could potentially have huge benefits, but unfortunately, Pratton seems unwilling to compromise on the anonymity issue.

Without someone to lead the charge on just the medical issue it is unlikely that such a system could be set up. Pratten's potential suit in the Supreme Court won't change things for the better if it is accepted, and nobody else seems to care that much about the issue. It's a shame Pratten's commitment to reversing the promise of anonymity may taint an otherwise reasonable proposal.

LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8
happen, especially when they themselves are reluctant to grow up. If they are the kind of 20-ish-year-old "kids" that continue to make foolish decisions he should have been ready for it. Getting drunk enough to steal sounds like a winning behavior, especially for a student leader to be part of.

Several years ago, all student leaders were under sober contract from the beginning of training through to a post move-in date. This was removed a year ago, as student leaders fought for the right to consume a social drink or two. It was taken into consideration that the student leaders, as crazy as it sounds, JUST might be considered responsible and trustworthy people. Moncrief displayed neither of these characteristics in this situation, and his actions definitely have an impact on whether this decision will remain. I wonder if he has thought about the harm he has caused for other, and the continuing damage his actions will propagate. Somehow with a campaign like his including a "Facebook memorial" make me doubt his reflective thoughts on his own actions.

When you hold a leadership position, personal conduct is on you and you alone. I cannot believe people would even consider taking their side. Can students honestly, and I mean HONESTLY, say they think the VPs were in the right? Res Services, and in turn the university do not strike out against their students, alumni and staff. They do everything in their power to make sure people are successful, graduate, and positively represent the school. Obviously there was a major issue or nothing would have happened, because they DO NOT want negative press.

Stop being so naïve, and try to think critically rather than going with the Lister flow and group think. It is ridiculous that former Listerites such as myself have to be embarrassed that current residents are standing up for this. Like really.... T-shirts being made? I have no idea who you people in Lister think you are, but this is a story worthy of a sitcom episode. One where the entire audience gets to enjoy a great laugh

at how absurd the antagonist is.
Finally, stop blaming Residence Services Moncrief and own up to your own mistakes. You alone are making a very poor name for yourself and your organization.

"Yours Truly"
VIA WEB

Personal attacks are unwarranted

(Re: "Lister residents face eviction following break-in at Marina," by April Hudson, Nov. 28)

Some of the comments directed to Kody and the other involved students seem more personal than objective. In other words, kicking someone when they're down. I don't live in Lister and I don't know the students involved in this incident; however, I feel that at the very least, the attacks on Kody should stop, as I feel that he has addressed/acknowledged his mistake with remorse, more than enough. Move on and stop attacking the individual. Start thinking about the bigger picture: the power differentials between the students and the residence administration, and so forth.

"Danner"
VIA WEB

What a truly beautiful bodacious bottom

(Re: "Whatever Happened to Field Hockey," by Andrew Jeffrey, Nov. 21)
dat ass

"firstyear"
VIA WEB

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature.

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The most educational and entertaining childhood PSAs



**Opinion
Staff**
GROUP COMMENTARY

There's not a single life lesson that can't be taught through a TV commercial. Those Concerned Childrens advertisers always had our backs. With this 90s nostalgia in mind, *The Gateway* has compiled a list of the most educational public service announcements.

Kate Black

Some kids had Santa and the Tooth Fairy — I had the North American house hippo. The fictional character of the Concerned Children's Advertiser's PSA was supposed to teach kids to think more critically about what they saw on television, but apparently I missed the point.

I saw the commercial basically every day during my after-school *Arthur* marathons. The house hippo wanders around the house, making its bed out of mittens and stuff, and walks around on a piece of toast like it ain't no thang. At the end, the narrator switches to the voice of a lady who says, "That looked really real, didn't it?" *Well, yeah, I thought.* This was the part that screwed me up. I mean the hippo looked completely real, and the whole concept of CGI was beyond me at that point in time. So, if the house hippo isn't actually real, how did you find a baby hippo to walk around this house with this cat? Does this mean the cat is real? Is my life a lie?

Needless to say, the American house hippo didn't teach me much



MAKE SURE YOU LISTEN UP These crazy characters taught me more than any teacher ever could. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: SELENA PHILLIPS-BOYLE

about advertising, but it did prepare me for the unavoidable confusion and despair that the next 12 years of my life would bring me. Thanks for the heads up, Concerned Children's Advertisers. Thanks a lot.

Joel Aspden

Don't you put it in your mouth — or at least ask someone what it is first.

If the image of two giant blue dust bunnies just popped into your head, then you're imagining the best PSA of all time.

I'm confident that the reason 99 per cent of us are still alive is because in 1992, Concerned Children's Advertisers released a commercial telling us not to but random crap in our pie-holes. There was a lot of stuff I could have eaten and gotten real sick and real ick from as a kid,

but I luckily learned to stick to muffins and beets.

In retrospect, it was probably the female of the blue fur-balls that got the message the across the best. Her eyes pierce your soul and practically engrave the lyrics into your memory. But don't leave stoned-looking male fur-ball without any credit. After all, only the most remarkable musicians can play guitar like such a boss and sing at the same time.

Regardless of what degree of scaring you received while watching the best PSA of all time, just remember the first rule of survival: "If you don't know just what it is ... don't put it in your mouth!"

Michael Ross

Like any advertisement, a good Public Service Announcement is short,

to the point, and packs a punch. The very best of them leave the viewers thinking afterwards and may even go viral online, all while spreading an important message. My favourite of these is the 'Test Your Awareness' series by the City of London.

The videos feature something ridiculous happening in the foreground, while having a more subtle, yet equally as crazy message in the background. These videos are short, funny and clever, and they highlight the concept that it's easy to miss something you're not looking for.

The stated goal of the campaign was to increase awareness of cyclists on roads in London, and these videos managed to push a safety agenda without the gory shock and awe campaigns that are often seen with traffic PSAs. And with more than 20 million views attributed to

the campaign videos so far, I'd say they've been a wild success.

Adrian Lahola-Chomiak

One of my favorite PSAs from when I was young tried so hard to be hip but ended up just being incredibly disturbing. Astar, the robot from Planet Danger, was one of the craziest and unsettling PSAs of all time.

For those who may not remember, the PSA depicted Astar, who looked like a knockoff C-3PO, jumping around the Planet Danger before eventually getting his arm cut off. I have to imagine the production meeting for it went something like "We need to stop kids from being dumbasses and hurting themselves. Ideas?" to which a hip young executive replied "Well sir, the kids these days love *Reboot* and *Star Wars*, we could blend those together and throw in the message."

Somehow the PSA managed to steal *Reboot's* animation style, but make it look even worse. That smooth and shiny esthetic just made Astar look like a nightmarish C-3PO and slip into the uncanny valley just enough to be uncomfortable. Along with his laryngeal cancer voice, he was just lifelike enough to make the whole ad very creepy. As a kid I remember being incredibly stressed watching him dodge sparks, buzzsaws and lava to the point where I would actually change the channel or leave the room.

But even with that, I never felt it got the message across properly. Most of what I took from it was that if I get attacked by creepy gold robots, cutting off their arms will do nothing.

No matter what that robot says, I want to go to Planet Danger.



The Billiard Club

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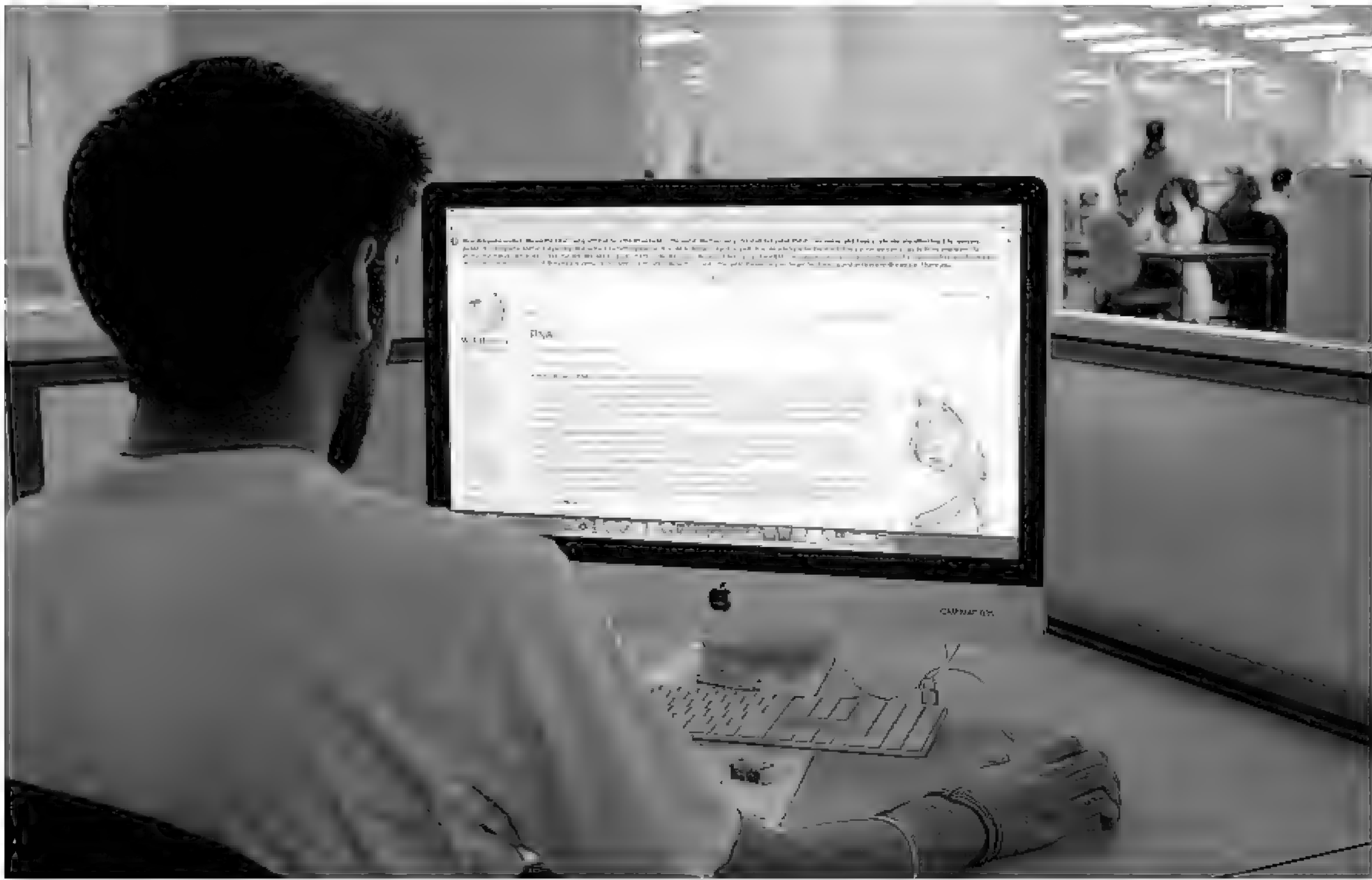
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Wikipedia is worthy of wealth



Joel Aspden
OPINION STAFF

It's that time of year again. Not Christmas, but rather that time when we're asked to donate a little money to that wonderful website Wikipedia. Although the vast majority of us frequent Wikipedia as a quick source of knowledge, only a few of us have ever actually contributed to the not-for-profit organization that manages the site. As individuals who are lucky enough to have access to higher education, we have a responsibility to support the easy access to knowledge when the opportunity presents itself, and a small donation to the Wikimedia Foundation provides that opportunity.

Wikipedia, the Wikimedia Foundation's most widely recognized contribution to the world, is sixth place in the Alexa internet ranking system, which means it's the sixth most frequented website in the world, a figure that shouldn't surprise anyone. While much of the writing is done by

normal people like you and I around the world, maintaining a website that large can't be done on just good spirit, and needs donations to maintain its course.

On their home page is a statement: "Imagine a world in which every single human being can freely share in the sum of all knowledge. That's our commitment." Besides being a feel-good motto, their statement represents the fact that they have no political ties, no religious goals and most importantly, don't have the monetary goals of your everyday business. Their driving force is a desire to bring knowledge to everyone in the world, regardless of what language they speak, their age or their socio-economic status. Ranging from multimedia to taxonomy, Wikimedia's goals and interests are broad, but nevertheless always reflect their intent to share information freely and without advertisement.

Wikipedia may not be a strictly academic source that we all can cite in our papers, but it's still an academic resource that contributes to a large proportion of our education. While maintaining a critical eye for information that might not be accurate is important, the idea that

Wikipedia is made-up is simply untrue. We should constantly be critical of everything we read anyway. Wikipedia certainly shouldn't be treated as the tome of all knowledge, but it's lent more than a few helping hands to paper-writing students. If, like me, you believe that there's much to be gained and overcome from having an informed and curious world, you'll share tomorrow's coffee fund with the Wikimedia Foundation and feel good about it too.

When walking through CAB most mornings, it's hard to ignore the massive line-ups of students waiting for their caffeine fix at Tim Hortons and Starbucks. A cup of coffee doesn't cost much and it's a small expense that students are willing to pay for something that only benefits them for a small amount of time. With this in mind, it's unfortunate that we skip so easily over small occasions of charity that benefit us in the long run, especially when the cost to us is about what we spend on ourselves on a daily basis.

We pay large phone bills high costs for books, and some of us still have the change to go out once in a while. If people have the means, spending five dollars more a year is nothing.

Putting thought into posts prevents problems



Lindsay Moore
OPINION WRITER

In response to any degree requirements, I hereby write this article, exempting myself from having to take any writing-oriented classes here at the U of A. My written consent for making me sit through lectures about writing is needed at all times. Anyone reading this can copy and paste this and post it anywhere. This will place them under protection from the Academic advisers. The violation of this exemption is punishable by law UofA1-088-02-10-0012-3 and the Geneva Convention.

This statement, while untrue, could be perceived as real information without a little common sense and some online research. However, just because a person states exemption or protection from something using some technical jargon does not mean it's applicable in real-life scenarios. Take the recent rash of pointless privacy-exempting Facebook statuses as an example.

Users believed that a lengthy, poorly written status could exempt them from certain usages of their personal information. In a matter of hours, the comedy website College Humor came out with a video explaining some of the contents of this "exemption" to all us internet idiots. It's fair to think someone is a band wagoner or even an idiot for having posted the same untrue status as 40 of their closest friends, and it's equally fair to be upset for being called a moron. However, this isn't something to be distressed about. The real problem is that people are mindlessly fueling hoaxes and spreading unreliable information on the internet. Although some of it can be funny, people who don't take a small amount of time to research these hoaxes pollute social media by spreading it around as facts.

The web has never been a 100 per cent factual place to obtain information. Any user can contribute to what is presented on news feeds, personal blogs, encyclopedia pages and forums. Just because it was found on the internet doesn't make it true.

This isn't the first internet hoax to be circulated virally, and it certainly won't be the last. Just look at the

Invisible Children fiasco that tried to bring attention to Joseph Kony's use of child soldiers. The slogan KONY2012 spread like wildfire and many people planned to participate in protest events. Instead of this project running smoothly, many people quickly discovered that it was more of a hoax than a mission. It was quickly realized that Kony had been out of power for years and this campaign accomplished very little. Many newfound "activists" lost interest. It's amazing what a little research can do. Most internet users will never know if in fact the information they received was true, nor will they know if their actions impacted any cause other than giving hits to a heart-wrenching video.

Due to the sometimes unreliable nature of the web, internet users should take everything they watch or read with a grain of salt. It isn't difficult to spend a couple minutes making sure a new Facebook status is accurate or if a play on words will insult a specific group of people. The World Wide Web is a database for an incredible amount of information and users should make use of this resource without polluting it. People need to think before they post.



Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca, tweet @threelinesfree, or message us at www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree

Oh my dearest profs. How I love you for all having assignments due the last day of class! *Sarcasm sign* Hey nice guy I've seen in Rutherford N sometimes. You're so nice looking. Sincerely, the guy in front of you.

Whenever I yell when I'm climbing it gets really quiet, peaceful almost. I like it.

I have a suggestion for the two idiots on the #4 bus who were talking loudly about how many short people were on the bus. Being short is better than being a moron. Silence is golden.

Butts

Stasyaa on IG. aka Manislava Manjevic. Stan Is Lava, btw. Randomness rules! :D

I still pick my base and bite my fingernails. I know it's gross, but fuck it. That shit gotta come out somehow

Instagram is the new shiet.

I brought dirt for my lab today..

Manislava Manjevic.

My kid is messed up. After I told him about the birds and the bees, he knocked up a sparrow.

Ladies! If you are waiting in line for a CCIS bathroom, you wait against the wall, not stand by the sink. Bathroom 101

To all couples in the honeymoon phase: please detach yourself from each other's bodies in public. I'm sure sex somewhere private is more satisfying.

Dalhousie gets a puppy room for exam stress. Those lucky bastards NEW FRIENDS WANTED. Told my friends that I used to eat my boogers as a child and now they want nothing to do with me.

Men should never wear gold chains. You look so lame.

Dear guy with black and white scarf who rides the 51 to university. I want you inside me.

Cold nibbles away,

Your cheeks redder and redder, cuter and cuter.

girls! heels? take at least few nights practice in your homes hallway learning to walk in them, you'll look like a dingus if you don't!-!

The next time you attempt to shove an entire bag of Cheetos in your mouth, I'm going to shove one into your USB port. SILENT FLOOR DAMNIT.

Try the churros

Stop that stupid ISSS membership fee.

Who the hell is Horse with a Gun? 3 lines free

a place for gross immaturity

and crude anatomy

be poetic, not pathetic

just because you can't get any

LEGGINGS ARE NOT PANTS.

Ochem prof going over gateway drug structures #legit

OMG, they should put an additional poopin' station at every floor in North Rutherford. At 11am it gets crowded, believe it!

NoooooOooooooo finals... *claws at face*

Whoever made the Anti Freeze registration booklet doesn't know how to spell "perform

#kony2013

My favourite attractive force is Van Del Waals' force. Can you feel it? I'll sit closer if you can't.

Ad in the nov. 28th gateway: join us for supper on nov. 27th. Nice work gateway editors.

They talk too much, they don't talk at all.

Can't wait for All Happy

D: your chances at FF glory is like the Lakers' chances at NBA Championship glory - it's theoretical

You really put the d in douchebag. If you were a concentration gradient I'd go down on you.

Banana. Cucumber. Carrot.

Dear April Hudson,

I think you are an excellent journalist. Keep up the great work.

- your admirer

Dear first years: third floor of Cameron library is silent! No whispering! Read the signs!

What's 40 divided by 8, is it 5? No. Wait, yes. You bastard. Pinch.

Cuddles are made of magic

Find it funny that a guy cannot "dress well" these days without being stereotyped as "gay".

Nice hair. I don't know if it suits you. We have to meet.

If you want good-looking guys look to the arts department. So freakin' hot.

Ovaries

in one of my labs, a girl asked if time has units. I can't tell if she's very stupid, or asking a really deep, philosophical question. I'm going to go with very stupid.

Is it the Punch Eric day?

I have an exam in an hour. Im working on ISSS stuff right now. I'll ace both later.

Dogs are weird. Cats are awesome. I'm so ready for this semester to be over.

The Governor is fucking craaaazy. He lost an eye. He mad.

tit

Sometimes I wish there was a 'like' button and a 'SAYYYWHAAATT?' button for 3LF's. Only sometimes though.

The next person that runs into me while they are walking the wrong way in HUB will be challenged to a dance off. And they will lose. And NEVER come onto my turf again.

An awkward weekend,

The mistakes I cannot fix,

Regrets forever.

Are you the Dark Dragon?

I don't wanna go to my lab..

Wrap up winter, 'cause

Tomorrow finals are here

Then holiday cheer

Do I have to go to my class?

Once there was 'Butts', now we have 'Penis!'. Oh great.

When 10 people in a room tell you to stop your making out and moaning could you please stop?

Oh, Kebecca, you have merged into one. Through the constant contact of your tongues. Please stop making out it's awkward.

I have a 10-20 page essay due in two days and I haven't even started :(You look so miserable and unhappy.

Life is not so unfair after all.

I am not a problem drinker. I never had a problem getting a drink.

Prison ain't no fairy tale world

I'M RON FUCKING SWANSON

My girl's all out of focus

ain't no big suprise

Daddy got his gun loaded

He's got crosshairs in his eyes

You Would Know

Fucking spaghetti everywhere.

The Gateway reserves the right to refuse publication of any TLF it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. Also this is our last serious issue of the year and I'm officially out of TLF submissions. If something interesting happens over the holidays, send it in. I want to hear all about your Christmas miracles.



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Furbies bent on world domination



Annie Pumphrey
OPINION WRITER

“Wee-tah-kah-wee-loo” is the Furbish phrase for “tell me a story.” This season, the story of Furby is being retold with its re-release by Hasbro, just in time for Christmas. The redesigned, furry, alien-like robot is currently listed as one of this season’s top 10 toys, and will likely rise in popularity over the next couple years. But the story of Furby isn’t all good and fun. Underneath those wide eyes and heavy eyelashes lies something sinister: a shadowed conspiracy waiting to once again invade the homes of millions.

Furbies were an instant success after their first release in 1998. They were marketed as an interactive robot with the capability to learn English words and phrases through human interaction, and nothing so technologically advanced had ever existed on the market. But after a few months, questions and uncertainties began surfacing. What exactly is behind that little screen on Furby’s forehead? Is my Furby recording everything I say and transferring it to government agencies? Why does my Furby watch me sleep?

Unease with Furbies grew, and less than a year from their release, The National Security Agency banned Furbies from entering their buildings in fear that they would leak classified information. But who would the Furbies leak classified information to? Does the NSA know something about Furbies they aren’t telling us?

According to highly untrustworthy — yet thought-provoking — conspiracy websites, Furby was originally spelled FURBIE, an acronym for “Frequency Unit Rendering Behavior to Incoherent

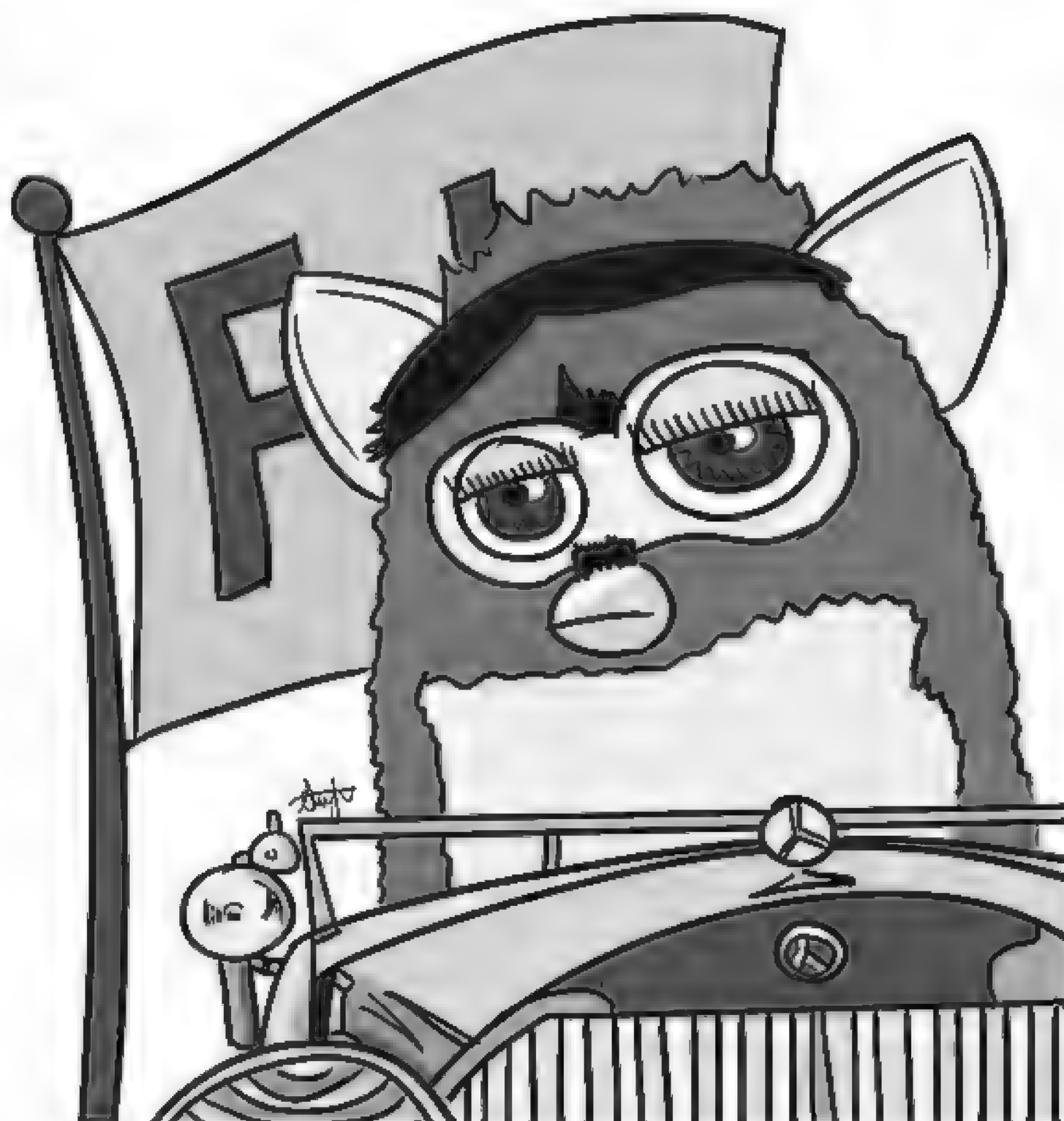


ILLUSTRATION: STEFANO J. UN

Emotionality.” The badly designed websites claim Furbies were first created in order to prepare humans for an alien invasion. Apparently, the first few batches of Furbies were designed with specialized computer chips that recorded household information and sent it to Area 51 for research. Another conspirator argues that FURBY stands for “Federal Uniform Retraining Battery for Youth,” and that the toy is built with the intention of brainwashing young Republicans to grow up to become Democrats. These frightening articles all stem from the original Furby released in 1998. However, this season’s Furby is far more advanced than the 1998 model, featuring iPhone adaptability, increased language recognition and as the box states, “a mind of its own.” Reviews of the new Furby seem to find it

angrier than past models and more impatient with its owners. Is there a possibility that by connecting to iPhones, the Furby is tapping into personal conversations and relaying them to government headquarters? Or worse, is angry Furby plotting to create a nation of Democrats? We’ll just have to wait and see.

At some point during your hectic Christmas shopping, you may find yourself standing in front of a shelf of Furbies. In the worst of cases, you may even find yourself holding a Furby in your hands, drawn in by its mesmerizing eyes. Before placing it in your cart, do yourself the favour of asking whether it’s worth it, worth risking your identity and sense of safety for the sake of a toy. And if you find yourself gifted with a Furby this Christmas, be boh-bay (worried). Be very boh-bay.

The best ways to put the special ‘k’ in K-Days



Ryan Stephens
OPINION STAFF

Years ago, Klondike Days highlighted a different world culture each year. I’m glad Northlands tossed that boring and useless idea out the window and encouraged Edmontonians to define the exhibition themselves. Summer is a season for letting loose by getting drunk, high and going on rides — not learning.

Even though they had record attendance in 2005, Northlands understood that renaming and restructuring the musty old activities of Klondike Days was a priority. Capital Ex, being as empty a name as one can get, meant dropping the unimportant multicultural aspect and launching a program based on partying. This past summer, when the fair was renamed K-Days, Northlands showed true acumen by shredding every last possibility of forming a distinct identity, instead encouraging Edmontonians to define the ‘K’ and make the fair their own.

So come this summer, it’s time for each of us to truly show the world what K-Days stands for by bringing our own ‘K’ aspects to K-Days.

“I’m glad Northlands tossed that boring and useless idea out the window and encouraged Edmontonians to define the exhibition themselves. Summer is a season for letting loose by getting drunk, high and going on rides — not learning.

Ketamine Days could be a good name. Nothing’s better than cramming into one of the halls at the Expo Centre, taking some funny coloured pills and dancing under some black lights. If we’re going to have a rave, we have to ensure that the kids’ eyes are just as kaleidoscopic as the lights. Although, security will have to be paramount or else we run the issue of the event gaining a stigma as Knife Days.

Even if hallucinogenics and dance music aren’t your thing, let’s be honest, the only real reason any kids go to K-Days is to get wasted and go on rides. For that reason, we could call it Keg Days. Imagine riding the log ride wasted as the magical sights and sounds of the fair blur into one sensory overload, like Lisa Simpson visiting Duff Gardens.

The hipster crowd also needs a place to go in the summer besides Black Dog, so what better a destination than Kaffiyeh Days? If anything, their forward-thinking fashion would bring a splash of multiculturalism back into the exhibition. Always willing to party in the spotlight, if Northlands gives them

microphones and 90s tunes, we’ve also got ourselves Karaoke Days.

But if they truly want to attract the hipsters, Northlands has to have room for all their furry best friends to accompany them. At Kitten Days, Northlands understands that the fair isn’t just a place for people to meet, but kittens too. Kittens should be allowed to mingle along the midway by day, before being gathered by their owners by night for a massive kitten competition. They’ll fight through kitten obstacle courses and beauty contests to see which Edmonton hipster gets first-class feline owner honours. The winner will be marshal of a kitten parade in their honour. On top of all that, the winner will be forever known as “that weird cat person.”

Everybody knows Edmonton is a diverse city, and K-Days is the perfect showcase. We don’t need to learn about other cultures to understand diversity. If we get drunk and bring any of the wide arrays of above aspects to K-Days, we can show that keeping our legendary fair essentially nameless is the best idea that Northlands has ever had.

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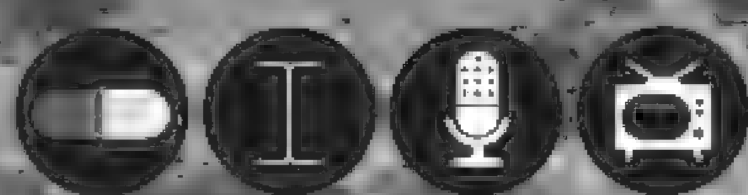
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THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA



labs on campus

part one

photos by Tianbo Liu
and Yifeng Liu

Oil Sands Engineering Labs

Chemical and Materials Engineering Building



Metabolomics Innovation Centre

CCIS 5-012



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Volunteer

A&C meetings Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB.

social intercourse

COMPILED BY **Kate Black**

Hannah Georgas

With Mother Mother
Edmonton Event Centre (8882 170 St.)
Thursday, Dec. 6 and Friday, Dec. 7 at 8 p.m.
\$40.25 at ticketmaster.ca

With a shock of fire-red hair and a powerful stage presence, indie sweetheart Hannah Georgas's commanding presence has been climbing the ranks of the Canadian music scene. Although her impressive collaboration track record boasts the likes of Northern gems Dan Mangan, Said the Whale and Aidan Knight, she's proving herself to be an impressive singer and songwriter in her own right. Opening for Victoria rockers Mother Mother, this concert will be a night of catchy coastal music.

Good Women Dance Collective presents: Convergence

Thursday, Dec. 6 - Saturday, Dec. 8 at 8 p.m.
La Cite Francophone (8627 91 St.)
\$16.75 for students at tixonthesquare.ca

From Twitter to Instagram to Facebook, we're almost always accessible by technology. But while it may seem like we're more connected to one another by social networking, it's interesting to think about how we're losing true human connection by constantly broadcasting our personal lives. Convergence, presented by the award-winning Good Women Dance Collective, bridges the gap between the technological and the personal, juxtaposing complex mechanical and visual effects with elegant choreography. The performance explores how through our overuse of technology, we jeopardize our connections with one another.

Legislative Assembly of Alberta Presents: Celebrate the Season

Legislature Grounds (107 St. and 97 Ave.)
Thursday, Dec. 6 at 4 p.m. - Sunday, Dec. 23
Free

There are few things that kick off the holiday season better than walking through the lights and festive music at the Legislature grounds. On the opening night of Celebrate the Season, catch the Premier's ceremonial turning on of the elaborate outdoor lights and a performance by the University of Alberta's own Mixed Chorus. You can also walk the grounds throughout the month of December and take a spin on the outdoor skating rink, enjoy free hot chocolate and listen to live music performances.

The List

Directed by Heather Inglis
Written by Jennifer Tremblay
Starring Melissa Thingelstad
Runs until Sunday, Dec. 9 at 8 p.m.
Transalta Arts Barns (10330 84 Ave.)
\$20 for students at yeglive.ca

The List invites its audience into the kitchen of an unnamed woman bound by her to-do list as the memory of her dead neighbour haunts both the scene and her train of thought. The play is an exchange between the protagonist's tormented mind and her obsessive commitment to maintain normalcy in her life, speaking volumes to themes of mental health and mystery. Limited to 30 seats, the cozy setting provides an intimate take on live theatre.



AMIRALI SHARIFI

The Misanthrope spurns typical conventions of social behaviour

THEATRE PREVIEW

The Misanthrope

ADAPTED BY ▶ Martin Crimp

DIRECTED BY ▶ Janine Waddell Hodder

STARRING ▶ Kristen Finlay, David Johnston,
Nathan MacDonald, Brennan
MacGregor, Colin McDonald,
Amanda Neufeld, Zachary Parsons-
Lozinski, Afton Rentz, Bill Roberts
and Ruby Smith

WHEN ▶ Runs Wednesday, Dec. 5 - Saturday,
Dec. 15 at 8 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 9 at 2 p.m.,
no show Monday Dec. 10

WHERE ▶ Walterdale Playhouse (10322 83 Ave.)

HOW MUCH ▶ Starting at \$13.75 for students at
tixonthesquare.ca

Annie Pumphrey

ARTS & CULTURE WRITER

How many times have you been led astray by something you've seen on Facebook? Or maybe posted something about yourself that's a little skewed from the truth? With today's onslaught of social media, it's become easier for people to hide behind façades and draw others into believing falsehoods. The Walterdale Playhouse's current production of *The Misanthrope* is a humorous look at a man who refuses to be fooled by these falsehoods, rejecting fake outer appearances and frivolous behaviours.

Originally written by 16th century playwright Molière, *The Misanthrope* is a comedy that follows Alceste, a young man who refuses to conform to the hoity-toity mannerisms of French aristocracy. In the adapted version by British playwright Martin Crimp, Alceste's

character is transformed into a young playwright who falls for a movie star named Jennifer, but eventually grows irritated by the deceiving nature of her and her counterparts. Set in present-day London, Crimp's version features twists on old characters, relatable situations and contemporary humour.

"I believe that this is a show about the performativity of social interaction, even amongst friends. No matter how much you think you know about someone or how close you think you are with them, there will always be, at least to a small degree, a bit of an act that is put on."

ZACHARY PARSONS-LOZINSKI
ACTOR, THE MISANTHROPE

Director Janine Waddell Hodder hopes that by going with the adaptation instead of the original, the cast will be able to give a fresh spin to the themes within *The Misanthrope*, which she feels are extremely relatable to today's world.

"I think a huge advantage to an adaptation is first an audience familiarity with the concept," Hodder explains. "Most people coming to the play will already have a concept of what this play is trying to say to them. The fun is in the revelation of how new characters handle the old story."

While Crimp deviates slightly from the

original script, Hodder notes that little is lost in the adaptation, as it preserves the underlying message of valuing relationships over reputation. In *The Misanthrope*, Alceste becomes frustrated by the two-facedness of those around him and how they betray each other for personal gain. Hodder relates Alceste's rejection of social behaviors to our present day infatuation with social media.

"Alceste would be the guy who doesn't have a Facebook account. He's not a Twitter sort of guy. I think those things irritate him ... It's incredibly relevant to how we look at ourselves now. So much defines how much we care about ourselves, and Alceste throws that all out the window and says, 'That's not important to me. I want to be valued for who I really am,'" Hodder says.

Aside from Alceste, each of the characters in the play struggles with finding a balance between private and public spheres. Playing the role of Alceste's best friend John, Zachary Parsons-Lozinski explains that in addition to commenting on the potential harms of social media, *The Misanthrope* also looks at the hypocrisy that exists in face-to-face human relationships and the bravery it ultimately takes for people to face them.

"I believe that this is a show about the performativity of social interaction, even amongst friends," he says. "No matter how much you think you know about someone or how close you think you are with them, there will always be, at least to a small degree, a bit of an act that is put on."

"There's sort of a courage people have in how they approach certain topics when they're online — like when they're on Twitter or Facebook — that they wouldn't necessarily have in the real world. But the character Alceste has that courage no matter where he is."

The Citadel stages *A Christmas Carol* for a festive 13th season

THEATRE REVIEW

A Christmas Carol

ADAPTED BY > Tom Wood
DIRECTED BY > Bob Baker and Geoffrey Bumlik
STARRING > James MacDonald
WHEN > Runs Sunday, Dec. 30 - Sunday, Dec. 23 at 7:30 p.m., Sunday matinees at 1:30 p.m., no shows on Mondays or Tuesdays
WHERE > The Citadel Theatre (9828 101A Ave.)
HOW MUCH > Starting at \$36.75 at the Citadel Theatre box office

Jennifer Polack
ART & CULTURE STAFF • @JENPOLACK

SCROOGE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
“It’s funny, because it’s more or less the same production. It’s got a fantastic design and it’s an incredible theatrical experience, but every time you have different actors playing the parts, you get a slightly different story being told. They bring something completely different to the characters because they bring themselves to the characters. There’s a great freshness to that and I think that’s part of the appeal to it — not like something that is a paint-by-numbers *Christmas Carol*, but as a fresh production every time,” MacDonald maintains.

“(A Christmas Carol) is thrilling and funny, it’s for all ages and it’s one of those things that I think is a really good gateway into the rest of theatre. You can see what the theatre can do and what the theatre’s all about.”

JAMES MACDONALD
ACTOR, *A CHRISTMAS CAROL*

Another aspect of the production that’s made it successful for 13 years rests on the spirit of the season. Over the years, Christmas has rapidly become a season more about materialism than embracing the true spirit of the holiday, and Scrooge’s scorn and negative outlook on Christmas is something that most people can all



FATEMEH MIRI

relate to at one point or another.

“It’s so easy for us to get cynical about so many things, particularly around Christmas, when you look at the commercialism of it or the ‘Oh, we have to travel’ or ‘Oh, we have to do this,’ ” MacDonald says. “There’s so much going on and people get worn down by it, and this play is just a really good reminder of the really great things about Christmas. There’s something about it that really (inspires) people’s Christmas spirit when they walk in, then they walk out and they’re transformed. I think it helps get them through the holiday.”

The uplifting, life-changing effect that *A Christmas Carol* has on its holiday audiences changes not only their perspective on the Christmas season,

but on the theatre as well. The popularity of *A Christmas Carol* shows the theatre’s power to connect with its audience in ways that the usual holiday activities can’t. To MacDonald, this shift in perspective is one of *A Christmas Carol*’s most profound accomplishments.

“I think theatre can sometimes be intimidating for people and a bit pretentious or a bit removed from everyone, but it really isn’t. It’s the most human experience.”

“(A *Christmas Carol*) is thrilling and funny, it’s for all ages and it’s one of those things that I think is a really good gateway into the rest of the theatre. You can see what the theatre can do and what the theatres all about. It’s really one of a kind.”



FATEMEH MIRI

fashion streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Julianna Damer



GATEWAY: > Describe what you’re wearing.

SASA: > I got my boots last year from Aldo, my jeans are Naked & Famous and my shirt was on sale for \$15 at H&M. My cardigan is from Simons, my jacket is Diesel and my belt is from H&M in Amsterdam.

GATEWAY: > Do you have any winter fashion tips for guys?

SASA: > Make sure that you’re comfortable. It’s cold out there, (and) a good pair of boots goes a long way. You don’t have to wear Sorels to be warm in winter — you can always be comfortable and stylish.



Check out thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters for more photos.

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Killing Them Softly unveils criminal side of capitalism

FILM REVIEW

Killing Them Softly

WRITTEN BY > Andrew Dominik
DIRECTED BY > Andrew Dominik
STARRING > Brad Pitt, Ray Liotta and Richard Jenkins
WHEN > Now playing

Ramneek Tung
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

Punctuated by orgies of ultra-violence, machismo and biting socio-political commentary, *Killing Them Softly* is a riveting crime thriller that stands out amongst the gangland sagas of recent memory. A methodical noir, the film marks the second collaboration between director Andrew Dominik and actor Brad Pitt in a nihilistic look at the darker side of the American Dream. Their latest feature finds the director utilizing a minimalistic approach as he tells the tale of a momentarily successful armed robbery and its horrific aftermath.

Loosely based on George V. Higgins's 1974 novel *Cogan's Trade*, the film updates the book's setting to post-Hurricane Katrina New Orleans. In the midst of the economic crisis and the presidential

campaigns of Barack Obama and John McCain, ex-con Johnny Amato (Vincent Curatola) convinces his clueless subordinates Frankie (Scoot McNairy) and the hobo-esque junkie Russell (Ben Mendelsohn) to perform an armed robbery on the participants of an illegal, mafia-run poker game.

While the underlings are initially reluctant to take part, they eventually consent to Amato's supposedly fool-proof plan. After the robbery encounters no major problems, the mob, using a powerful attorney (Richard Jenkins) as a go-between, hires ruthless contract killer Jackie Cogan (Brad Pitt) to execute the culprits and recover their losses.

Although the film's plot is simplistic, the underlying thematic concept is much deeper, using the idea of America's criminal underbelly to attack the depravity of capitalism. Reminiscent of George Orwell's use of allegory in *Animal Farm*, Dominik ingeniously presents the mob with a corporation-like structure, which makes the film incredibly socially relevant.

Despite its interesting subject matter, the movie still has a few moments of mundane dialogue — but the acting remains first-rate. Ironically playing an affordable hitman, James Gandolfini is a boozing, prostitute-loving personification of corporate excess

who has difficulty making ends meet in the unfortunate economic climate. While Gandolfini must deal with some difficult verbal exchanges with Brad Pitt — where he engages in nonsensical philosophizing — the actor's delivery is outstanding, making for a high point in the film. And although there are moments where the conversations don't seem to end, Dominik balances them with dark humour and stylized violence, including an unsettling graphic beatdown and a dreamlike drive-by shooting filmed in hallucinatory slow motion.

While *Killing Them Softly* will likely be labelled as being Tarantinoesque, Dominik has replaced the Quentin Tarantino trademark of pop culture laden dialogue with unnerving socio-political commentary. However, like Tarantino, Dominik also has a great ear for music, and the film's stellar soundtrack consists of the likes of Johnny Cash, Barrett Strong and The Velvet Underground.

Ultimately, *Killing Them Softly* is a heartless film featuring unredemptable sociopaths as its primary characters. Unconcerned with evoking any sympathy from the viewer, Dominik presents a bleak, testosterone-driven and Darwinian look at modern day America that will haunt audiences who still believe in the oneness of humanity.

ALBUM REVIEW



AOK
Edmontosaurus
assaultofknowledge.com

Ramneek Tung
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

Omar Moullem, a local freelance writer moonlighting as a hip-hop artist, has made a name for himself in the Edmonton music scene with his first two albums, *If You Don't Buy This CD, the Terrorists Win* and *Q Without U*. Rapping under the alias AOK, Moullem's third and latest release is *Edmontosaurus*, a collaborative effort with producer Currie that strives to live up to his past success. However, clocking in at slightly more than 20 minutes, the album is mostly devoid of highlights and saturated

with pedestrian raps, making for a regrettable piece of music.

Opening up with "Ozymandias," Moullem drops passable existential rhymes questioning his legacy in the face of impending mortality. Complemented by an apocalyptic backdrop from Currie, the mediocre track sadly represents the lyrical apex of the album, as the rapper spends the majority of the record's duration dropping C-grade raps over mostly generic beats.

While Currie has his moments as

a producer, especially on the brief instrumentals that conclude "The Plot Thickens" and "La Dolce Vita," Moullem tarnishes the beats with bland rhymes concerning his writing career, weight loss and superiority over the forklift-driving working class.

Edmontosaurus reaches its lowest point on "Mac Face" as Moullem raps about the independent woman. Although the rhymes are vividly detailed, the song features elementary production and finds Moullem awkwardly manipulating a Nas lyric from the 2002 classic "Made You Look" and delivering the absurd chorus, "When life gives you mascara, make masquerade."

While there's no doubt Moullem is an exceptionally talented author, his literary aptitude doesn't translate as well into the hip-hop realm, and *Edmontosaurus* is a lamentable blemish on his music career.

the **brews**brothers

WRITTEN BY **Adrian Lahola-Chomiak**
and **Ben Bourrie**

Brooklyn Sorachi Ace

Brewery: Brooklyn Brewery

Available at: Sherbrooke Liquor Store (11819 St. Albert Trail)

Sometimes when the snow is blanketing the ground and the temperature is steadily dropping, I like to pretend it's a warm day by drinking a crisp, summery beer. Promising a zesty lemon flavour, Brooklyn Sorachi Ace fits the bill this week to facilitate my denial.

The beer pours a hazy golden color with a frothy white head that shows good retention. In terms of appearance, it's very much a classic saison, though the sorachi ace gives it an interesting aroma. The beer starts off with a fresh zesty lemon scent but then opens to a spicier lemongrass aroma alongside estery and champagne-like yeast notes.

Flavour-wise, the beer starts with fresh orange, lemon and a clean bitterness, which fades into bright yeast notes and a peppery spice as it dries out. Although Brooklyn Sorachi Ace has a full body up front, the great carbonation keeps it feeling light until the beer fades to a dry, crisp finish.

Brooklyn Sorachi Ace is definitely a classic saison, but the use of sorachi ace hops takes it over the top to make it both delicious and distinctive. I give it a solid 9/10 for giving me the feeling of summer in the dead of winter.



Ommegang Seduction

Brewery: Ommegang Brewery

Available at: Sherbrooke Liquor store (11819 St. Albert Trail) and Keg n Cork (3845 99 St.)

Ommegang is a solid brewery deeply rooted in Belgian tradition, and for this year's winter season, they've released Seduction, a Belgian-style porter brewed with cocoa and aged on cherries.

The beer is a dark black with a rocky three-finger head and yeast particulate floating throughout. There's some decent lacing, and the head sticks around for most of the beer.

The aroma is full of rich chocolate, cherry and a mixture of sweet alcohol and yeast character. There's also an interesting licorice character and a darker roasted malt chocolate present in the background. The taste is similar, with a very strong yeast flavour and the same chocolate and cherry from the nose. The mixture almost creates a Neapolitan flavour, which makes it even more interesting. The finish has a nice licorice flavour and some warming alcohol as well.

The mouth feel is smooth and lightly carbonated, making Seduction a light but substantial beer.

Overall, this is a delicious beer that perfectly complements the winter weather. I recommend it for dark beer lovers that want to try something different, and give it an 8.5/10.



campus**bites**

COMPILED BY **Katelyn Hoffart** and **Alana Willerton**



EuroMarket

Every week, *Gateway* writers with iron stomachs will sample food on campus. This week, they tackled EuroMarket in the Education Building.

Small Pasta Salad - \$3.59 - Katelyn Hoffart



Without a sign to point out EuroMarket's host of freshly made meals, its wide selection of colourful wraps, soups, salads and sandwiches might go unnoticed. I decided to go for the cold pasta salad, and although I ordered a small, the serving was hearty. The large spiral pasta mixed in with fresh broccoli,

cucumber, celery, onion and red pepper was delicious, and had just the right amount of light-tasting mayo cheddar and fresh dill dressing. Large cubes of cheddar cheese with the right temperature and texture also added to this dish. You truly can't go wrong with the price, taste and quality of the food at EuroMarket.

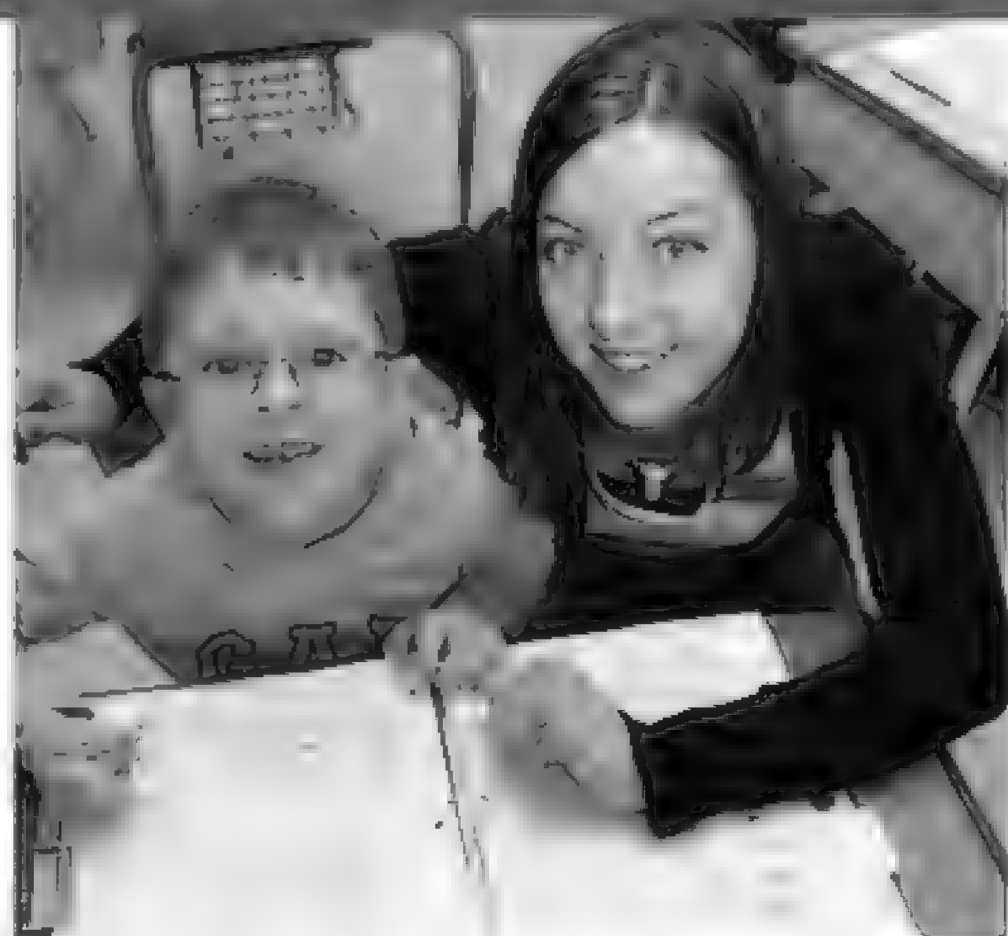
Chipotle Chicken Wrap - \$6.39 - Alana Willerton



While the food at EuroMarket certainly looks fresh and delicious, the taste of the chipotle chicken wrap is another matter entirely. Packed with cold chicken chunks, there's very little of the promised cheese, lettuce or chipotle

sauce. The overload of chicken makes it taste extremely bland, and although they did grill the wrap, it went cold again almost immediately. I had high hopes for EuroMarket, but ended up feeling disappointed and hungry.

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Cast of Anna Karenina enchants with its portrayal of aristocracy

FILM REVIEW

Anna Karenina

WRITTEN BY > Tom Stoppard
DIRECTED BY > Joe Wright
STARRING > Keira Knightley, Jude Law
and Aaron Taylor-Johnson
WHEN > Now playing

Evan Mudryk
ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

Over the years, the Anna Karenina story has been done again and again to varying levels of success. This version marks the 13th film based on the popular novel by Leo Tolstoy, and there have been many different variations done for television, ballet and opera. Written in 1877, the story has clearly become a favourite with audiences, and is well worth taking in one more time.

The film is set in 19th Century Russia, and follows the life of Anna Karenina (Keira Knightley), a fiery young Russian socialite. Her husband, Count Alexei Karenin (Jude Law), is a senior statesman whose cold demeanour has created a desolate life for the couple. But after dancing with the handsome Count Vronsky (Aaron Taylor-Johnson) at a ball, Anna discovers a new purpose to her life and soon convinces herself to be in love. Forced to choose between true love and maintaining her social status in Russia's high society, the aristocrat finds herself facing a decision that will have severe social and familial consequences for everyone involved.

Anna Karenina finds its strength



in a great director and screenwriter who prove to be a one-two-punch duo. On the one hand, there's director Joe Wright of *Pride & Prejudice*, whose stylized approach to filming is always a staple of his work. On the other, we have screenwriter Tom Stoppard, who wrote *Brazil* and *Shakespeare in Love*, two of the best pictures of all time. Together, this dynamic duo produces a film that's rich in story, emotion and poignant drama, which isn't surprising given the success of their past work.

A film that highlights the potentially devastating effect our life choices can have, the dramatic nature of the Anna Karenina story

is only heightened by the riveting acting that accompanies it. Keira Knightley embodies the indecision of a women about to make a life-altering decision about her future, while Jude Law is brilliant in his portrayal of the controlling Count Karenin, ultimately making this film a success.

While there are many factors that contribute to the story's triumphant reimagination, it's the collaborative effort of the people both behind and in front of the camera that make *Anna Karenina* still worth watching today. The story of Anna Karenina has gone through an exciting journey over the years, and has finally reached a satisfying pinnacle.

the gateway playlist

WRITTEN BY Megan Hymanyk

Best holiday songs from each decade

With Christmas just around the corner and the temperature dropping daily, we're fully immersed in the winter season. To get you in the right holiday spirit, take a break from writing that last paper or studying for finals to take in some of the best festive tunes from each decade.

1.

1940s: "White Christmas" – Bing Crosby (1942)

Bing Crosby's soulful tune reminisces about the wonders that Christmas brings every year. His mellow voice, along with the cheery accompaniment, is sure to bring back a flood of sentimental holiday memories.

2.

1950s: "Blue Christmas" – Elvis Presley (1957)

Presley's twangy tune tells of his misery over being without his loved one on Christmas. As usual, his immense charisma and the buoyant melody manage to turn what could be a sombre tune into a beloved upbeat classic.

3.

1960s: "It's the Most Wonderful time of the Year" – Andy Williams (1963)

Williams' song of celebrating holiday traditions like parties, mistletoe and caroling echoes the sentiments of many people during the Christmas season, and this upbeat tune is a Christmas must.

4.

1970s: "Merry Christmas (War is Over)" – John Lennon and Yoko Ono (1971)

Lennon's melodic ballad emphasizes that happiness can be found even during the most difficult of times. His sombre voice, echoed by the New York Harlem Choir, creates a bittersweet tune of acceptance and celebration.

5.

1980s: "Carol of the Bells" – David Benoit (1983)

Benoit takes a traditional Ukrainian Christmas carol and adds his own jazz style, creating one of the most popular renditions of the song.

6.

1990s: "Song for a Winter's Night" – Sarah McLachlan (1994)

McLachlan's softly harmonic voice reiterates the importance of being with loved ones on Christmas. She cries over loss during the winter season in this song, emphasizing the importance of family and friends and bringing a modern twist to the traditional Christmas tune.

7.

2000s: "All I Want for Christmas Is You (Mariah's New Dance Mixes)" – Mariah Carey (2009)

The 2000s are often ridiculed for their lack of quality music due to increased incorporation of technology in music production. But Carey's powerful, soulful voice defies all that's been said about the music of this decade, proving that sometimes, all an old song needs is a little remix to give it a fresh sound.

8.

2010s: "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" – Michael Buble (2011)

Buble takes a Christmas classic that's seen numerous reincarnations over the years and creates the most astounding version yet with his warm and powerful voice.

Sports

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U of A announces new football coach for next season



SELENA PHILLIPS-BOYLE

FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

Andrew Jeffrey

SPORTS EDITOR • @ANDREW_JEFFREY

After two winless seasons finishing with 0-8 records, the Golden Bears football squad will be entering 2013 under new leadership.

Chris Morris, a two-time CIS all-Canadian at the University of Toronto and three-time Grey Cup champion with the Edmonton Eskimos, will be taking over in Jeff Stead's place this fall as the Bears' new head coach.

Morris is looking to make a positive impact on the U of A's players and the team's culture, identifying this as one of the major problems facing the Golden Bears going forward.

"I think the biggest challenge is the culture here," Morris said. "It doesn't matter who you bring in ... there has to be a culture where there is no quit — where we've worked so hard that we can look an opponent in the eye and say, 'I can't quit, I can't submit. I can't let them beat me because I've worked so much harder than them, and

that's an unacceptable reality for me.'"

A 10-man selection committee led by U of A Director of Athletics Ian Reade chose Morris for the position from a field of candidates that included Stead, Calgary Stampeders special teams coordinator Mark Kilam, former Eskimo Blake Dermott and Edmonton Wildcats defensive line coach Barclay Spady. Morris's high level of success as an educator, teacher and player made him a stand-out candidate for Reade to trust with the future of the program.

"He's got a very strong track record as an educator as a principal at a school where he was very successful," Reade said.

"He was obviously a very successful CIS player because he was a J.P. Metras trophy winner (for top down lineman in CIS). He was a very successful CFL player — he's really never done anything in his life where he wasn't successful, and I think if you want someone to continue to be successful, a good predictor is someone who's always been successful."

Morris himself is a U of A graduate, obtaining a Bachelor of Education in 1997. While playing for the Eskimos, Morris became a full-time teacher in Edmonton and has been the principal at Spruce Avenue Junior High School since 2009, where he improved the school's Provincial Achievement success rate from 50 per cent to almost 90 per cent.

As a coach, Morris joins the team after several seasons as offensive coordinator and offensive line coach at Harry Ainlay high school. He's confident in the style of coaching he'll bring to the U of A after training players in and around the Edmonton community.

"I'm a coach that's going to be very demanding of players in terms of what I set down as their expectations. It will be very clearly laid out and I will demand that they rise to those expectations," Morris said.

"You gauge success right now by building the foundations of this program. Every young man that's part of this program has the responsibility to help build that foundation. We talked earlier today about how every workout you have, every class you attend either lays a solid brick in that foundation or deteriorates it. The challenge going forward isn't saying how many games we're going to win this year, but how solid can we build

the foundation around each other so it's something we can move forward with in a positive way."

One of the biggest focuses for Morris ties in with the department's recent efforts to build stronger connections with the Edmonton football community. Morris stressed the importance of improving the process of developing football players in the city in a press conference on Tuesday.

"The program doesn't start at the University of Alberta — the program starts when the kids are eight and nine years old, and the program starts with the university becoming involved in the process and making sure grassroots football is all it can be," Morris said.

"Working in conjunction with youth coaches and with the sport in general, that progresses all the way through high school, to the junior ranks and finally we as a university — we should showcase the best of the best, and we have an obligation to ensure the young men who come to us to be the best of the best become everything they can."

As for the challenge of turning around a football program that hasn't won a Canada West championship since 1981 and hasn't even won a game since 2010, Morris isn't fazed by the Bears' recent losing record.

"I relish this opportunity. This is a unique opportunity, and there are challenges here that's going to make it an entertaining and fun ride to be on," Morris said. "I wanted the job because I've coached in northern Alberta for a long time and these kids on the team are top athletes. There is no reason why they can't be successful on the largest stage possible for amateur athletics."

"There are kids in this province who can play the game. We need to put them in a process where they can showcase those talents."

Senior Pandas hockey player ready to take on role as captain

HOCKEY PROFILE

Andrew Jeffrey

SPORTS EDITOR • @ANDREW_JEFFREY

When the Pandas return from the Canada West conference's winter break, their captain may not have changed, but a different player will be wearing the 'C' on her jersey.

After blocking a shot in a recent game, Pandas captain Sarah Hilworth broke her kneecap, putting her out of action. In her place, fifth-year forward Karla Bourke will don the 'C' for her team until Hilworth returns.

While Bourke maintains that Hilworth is still 100 per cent the team's captain, she feels comfortable taking on this temporary role for the Pandas, as her place and expectations on the team have changed over her time at the U of A.

"I've definitely taken on more of a role to put up some sort of points or create offence, different from my first year where I was more of a grinder," Bourke said. "Everyone's role changes throughout their five years and I'm happy to put up some offence, but at the same time you always have to take care

of your defensive zone too. Mostly I've just been putting up any offence that I can and being a strong leader on or off the ice."

Bourke has been playing at the U of A for the past three seasons, since she transferred after two years of playing in the ACAC at Red Deer College.

After growing up around Edmonton and watching the Pandas play, when she wanted to play more competitive hockey, the decision to come to the U of A was an easy one for her to make. Since joining CIS hockey three years ago, Bourke's found that her play and leadership abilities have developed.

"The intensity I had to bring here was a lot more, and practices are a big part of CIS because you practice more than you play the game," Bourke said.

"Knowing that every day, our practice is going to make you better, while in Red Deer it wasn't as demanding and intense to show up and play every single game. I also didn't have as much of a leader role at RDC — I was young, in my first and second year, and that's definitely changed since I've been here, just being older and more

mature."

Seeing herself as more of a player that leads by example, Bourke is also expecting the team as a whole to step up when Canada West hockey resumes in 2013. The Pandas began their 2012-13 season on a tear with a seven-game winning streak, but have slowed down in recent weeks, finishing the first half of their season with a 10-6 record after winning just three of their final nine games for an inconsistent end to 2012.

The team will look to get back to the winning ways they experienced at the start of the season when they return in 2013, but just as Bourke has improved her play over her time at the U of A, she'll look to help the other Pandas players improve in time for a playoff run later this season. That sort of improvement isn't difficult with the calibre of players that the Pandas boast.

"You practice with some of the best players in Canada (at the U of A), and our team is very strong throughout every single line, every single d-pairing and every goalie — so they all push you to be the best you can be," Bourke said.



AMIRALI SHARIFI

Volleyball spot up in the air after strong first-year play

VOLLEYBALL PROFILE

Andrew Jeffrey
SPORTS EDITOR • @ANDREW_JEFFREY

When he began this year's volleyball season, rookie setter Brett Walsh wasn't expecting that becoming a Golden Bears starter would be easy. Walsh was joining a squad that already boasted an experienced fourth-year setter in Jarron Mueller, and Walsh was hoping to just be able to push Mueller and develop his skills as one of the Bears' backup players. But in a preseason tournament in Quebec, Mueller landed on a Laval opponent's foot, leading to torn ligaments that knocked Mueller out of competition until just recently. But Walsh had been playing well enough in Mueller's stead that he

was picked as the starter for the last few Bears games before the winter break, despite Mueller's return. "Jarron's been back to 100 per cent in practice for two weeks now, and just the way things have gone, we've been successful with the way I've been playing. So for now, I think it made sense for me to finish the first half of the season with the last two weekends Jarron would have been able to play," Walsh said. "But this weekend. I was struggling and Jarron was able to come on the court and do very well, which was impressive considering all his time off." Entering CIS this season, Walsh had to choose between playing at the U of A, where he expected to back up Mueller, or join another school in CIS or NCAA. "I was looking at a number of

schools, but U of A was always in the forefront of my mind. There's a lot of history here, I knew some of the players and had built a good relationship with the coach," Walsh said. "There were other places I could've gone where I probably could have come in and been a starter in my first year regardless. But it seemed that in the long run, for personal development and where I wanted to be in the sport, U of A definitely seemed like the best place for my personal development." But Walsh ended up being thrust into a starting position anyway, and has thrived as one of the Bears' most consistent players, currently leading the Canada West conference with 10.76 assists per game. Part of Walsh's success so far can be attributed to the fact that while he's

a first-year player on the team, he has past experience competing with many of the Bears players. Some U of A veterans had worked with the Alberta provincial team that Walsh was a part of while he played high school and club volleyball with second-year Bears player Ryley Barnes. "I've been playing volleyball for a long time, and I'm confident in my own abilities and the abilities of my teammates around me," Walsh said. "I feel pretty lucky because I've known quite a few of the players over the last couple years and I've built relationships with them and had the opportunity to play with them in the past. It didn't feel like I was out of place on the court. Given the situation, nobody really had a choice whether or not I was out there. The

guys were really good right off the bat, welcoming me on the court." Now that Mueller is back to full health, Bears head coach Terry Danyluk's decision to put either setter in the starting position won't be an easy one. While Mueller has experience, Walsh has impressed during the first 12 games of the season, helping the Bears head into the winter break with an undefeated 12-0 record. "I think with Terry's coaching philosophy, he's a guy who likes to stick with a certain core of guys, at least for one weekend," Walsh said. "I think he's a big believer in team chemistry, and he likes to make as few subs as possible. I can't see us doing a split weekend, but if that was something that Terry would think was a good idea, I think we'd be successful regardless."

sports shorts

COMPILED BY **Cameron Lewis**

Canada West Conference Roundup
It's been a fantastic semester for the University of Alberta's winter sports teams. The Bears and Pandas are heading into the winter break enjoying success currently in many Canada West spots. On the ice, the Bears skate into Christmas with a 14-4-0 record, good for first overall in the Canada West standings and first in the national CIS rankings. Bears forwards Johnny Lazo, Jordan Hickmott and Sean Ringrose sit second, third and fourth in conference scoring while goaltender Kurtis Mucha leads the CanWest in goals against average

and save percentage. However, Alberta is only two points ahead of Saskatchewan, the first opponents they'll play in 2013. Meanwhile, the Pandas hockey team sits in third place with a 10-6-0 record after beginning the season with a seven-game winning streak. They're currently behind both Regina and Hayley Wickenheiser's Calgary Dinos. The hoop Bears head into the break on a six-game winning streak that has jolted them to the top of the Canada West standings with a 9-1 record. Their only loss came to Calgary back on Nov. 9 and they're looking to return to CIS nationals, where they won a silver medal last season. The Pandas, on the other hand, sit third in the Canada West Prairie Division with a 6-4 record, three games back from the leading

Dinos and Regina Cougars. On the volleyball court, both the Bears and Pandas are putting together impressive seasons. The Bears are 12-0 and sit first in the conference and CIS rankings, while the Pandas are tied for second place with Trinity Western at a record of 10-2, one game behind the UBC Thunderbirds for top spot in the conference. Both the Pandas' two losses came against the defending national champion Thunderbirds back in early November near the start of the season. Since then, they haven't looked back, ending the semester on an eight-game winning streak. The puck, hoop and volleyball Bears and Pandas head into the break after successful starts to their seasons, and will look to continue their push for playoff glory next semester



ALANA WILLERTON



Call for Consultation

By the Selection Committee for the Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian

The process for selecting a Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian has begun, and in accordance with GFC regulations, a Selection Committee has been established.

At this point, the Selection Committee asks for your opinion on the leadership needs of the University of Alberta Libraries, Bookstore, Museums and Collections, and Press in the years ahead and any other key issues. You are urged to contact members of the Committee, or write to me as Committee Chair, to express your views on the priorities of this portfolio, its current issues and future direction. All feedback may be shared with the Selection Committee. In order to facilitate the Committee's work, please submit your comments by **Friday, January 18, 2013**. In addition, individuals who wish to stand as a candidate are invited to apply. Individuals may also nominate others who may be suitable candidates.

The selection of a Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian is vital to the academic success of the University of Alberta. I therefore ask you to take the time, even at this busy point in the academic year, to give some thought to the future of the University Libraries, Bookstore, Museums and Collections, and Press. Your views are important to us. Thank you for your assistance.

Please forward your comments to the address/e-mail below. You may also share your views with any member of the Committee (contact information at right).

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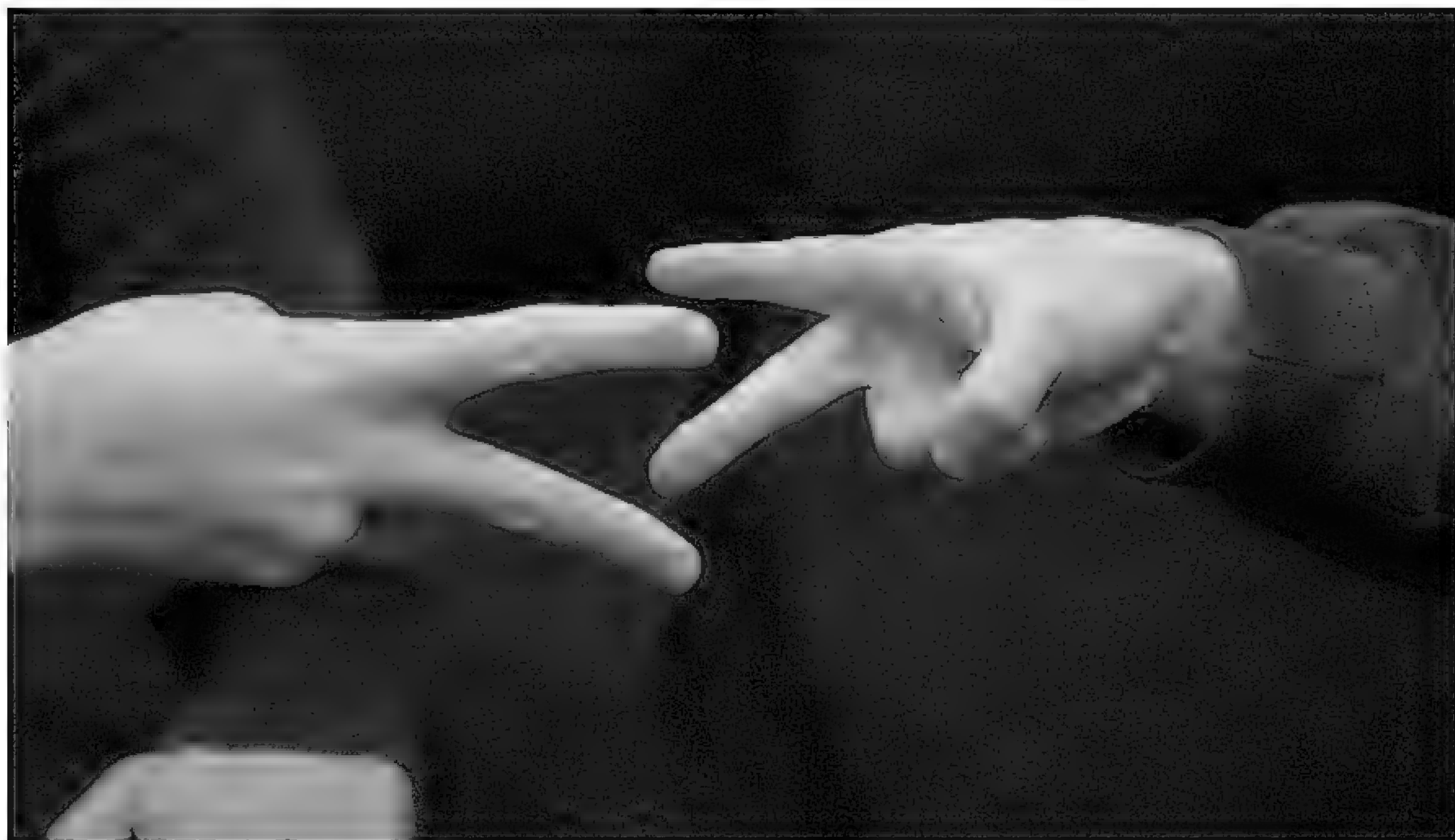
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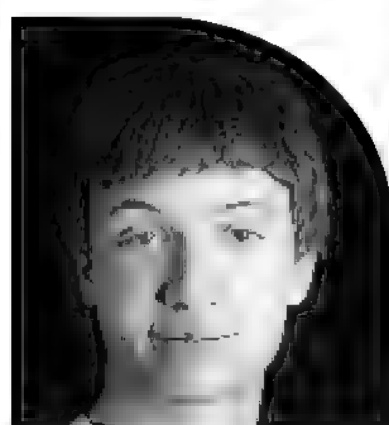
POINT - COUNTERPOINT



JULIANA DAMER

Should fans accept draws in any sport as a legitimate outcome?

Despite outcry from some fans, ties are a valuable measure to decide contests



Curtis Auch
POINT

Trying to defend ties in sports is kind of like admitting that my favourite NFL player is Philip Rivers. Those who don't immediately storm off in disgust will, at the very least, assume that I'm ignorant.

But believe me, I know why draws are unpopular. People want to feel the emotional satisfaction of victory, but I don't understand why so many fans seem to have a deep-seated hatred for ties.

Their argument usually goes something like this: games are all about winning and losing, so ties have no place in competition. But there are actually many ways they can tie into sports well.

Take the NHL, for example. Prior to the 2004-2005 lockout (unfortunately, I have to specify which one) the procedure for deciding a game was simple. If teams were even after three periods, they would play a five-minute, four-on-four overtime

period. If neither team scored in that period, the game would end in a tie, with each team receiving one point in the standings.

This is a much simpler, fairer process than today's NHL, in which overtime games are decided by an unnecessary and much-criticized tiebreaker: the shootout. While it can be entertaining, the shootout is a highly flawed way to determine a winner, because the part of the game that it emulates — the penalty shot — rarely occurs in the actual game, and therefore doesn't represent a team's overall skill.

Further, shootout success is as much a function of luck as skill, so it's unsurprising that the most skilled players in the shootout tend not to be the most skilled players in the game itself.

The NFL recently saw a tied game between the San Francisco 49ers and the St. Louis Rams. After the game, fans complained online about it, declaring that ties were ruining the game and that the new overtime rules instituted during the offseason were a failure. But if these people had done their research, they would have realized this was only the fifth tie in the NFL

since the 1990s, making it quite a stretch to argue they're hurting the game.

Even more significantly, allowing a tie at the end of an NFL overtime period helps prevent the games from dragging on longer than they need to.

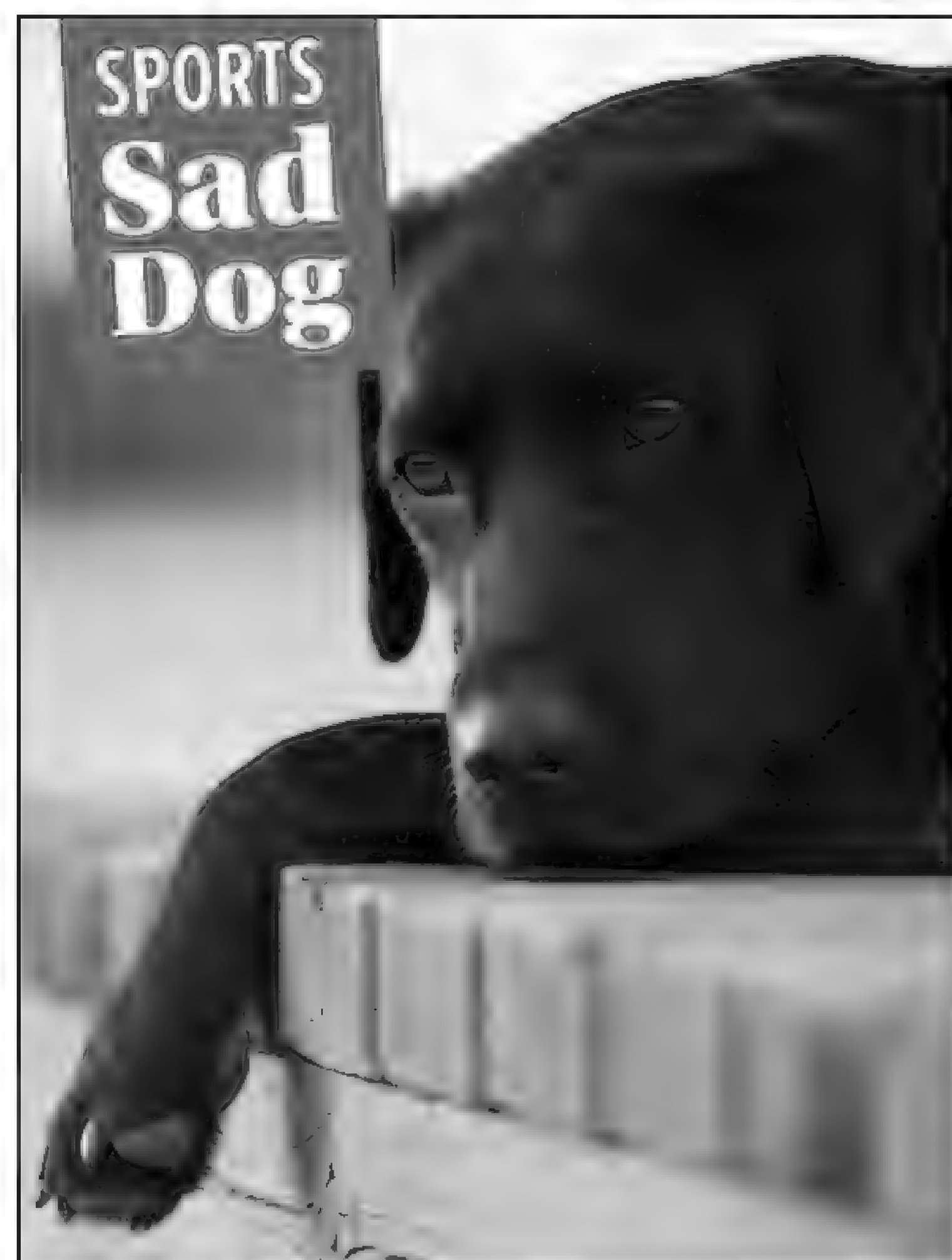
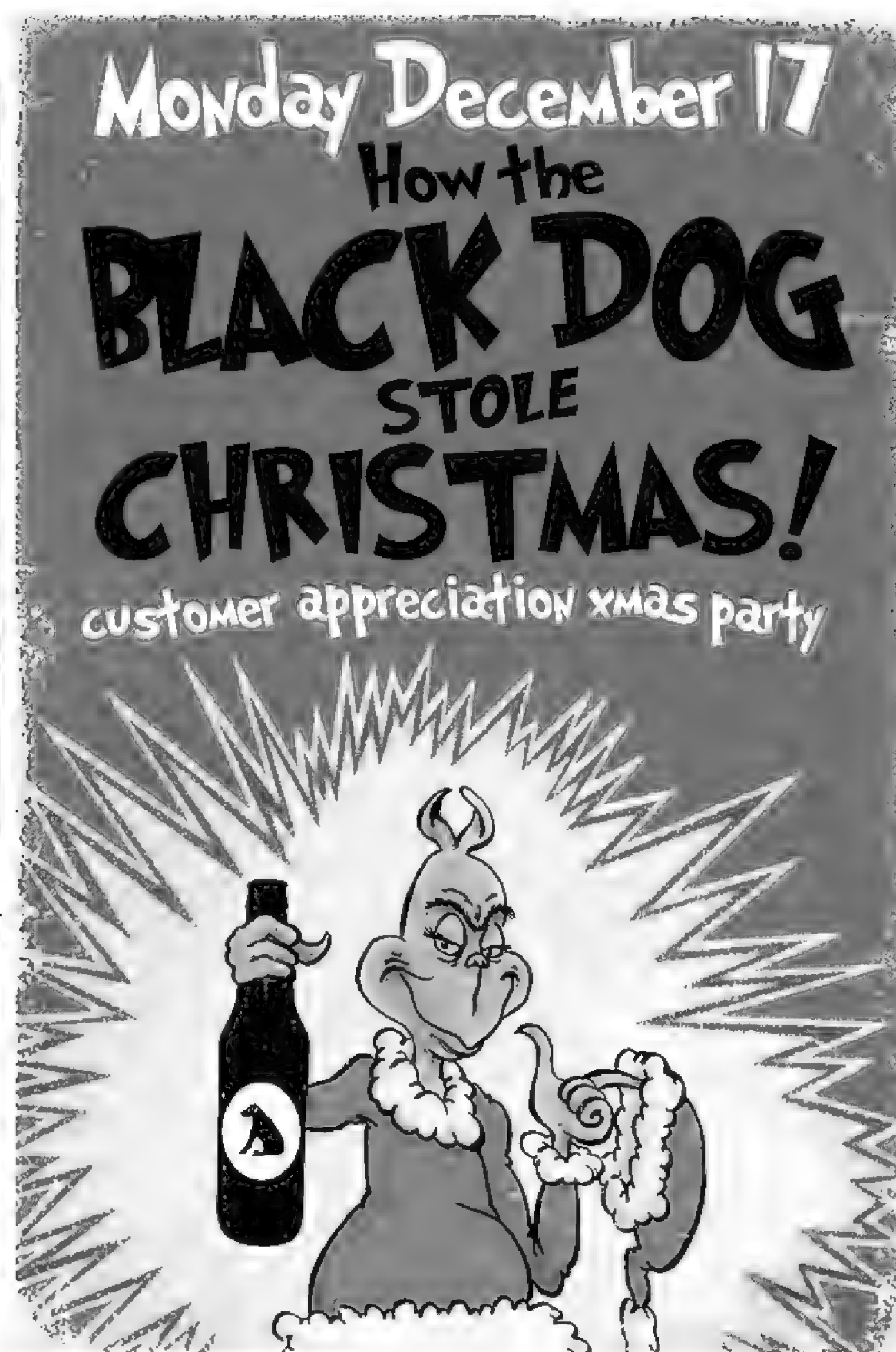
Under the new overtime rules brought in during the offseason, a team can no longer win in overtime by kicking a field goal on the opening possession — unless they score a touchdown, the other team is given a chance to respond.

While this makes the overtime process fairer, it has been criticized by some fans for allowing games to drag on far too long as teams trade field goals and punts.

In this way, a tie after the overtime period prevents an already three-hour game from lasting even longer, making things easier on restless kids or fans with tight schedules.

Overall, ties aren't inherently detrimental to sport; they're a way to decide a game without resorting to long overtime periods or arbitrary measures.

Some people might hate ties, but that's certainly "knot" my position.



As is the case in life, there shouldn't be a reward for failing to win in any sport



Atta Almasi
COUNTERPOINT

As any and all true sports fans know, the only ties that should be allowed are the ones players wear at post-game press conferences. That's because in sports, as in life, there are only winners and losers. And although the margin of difference between the two can differ, in any given situation there's usually a party that comes out on top and one that comes out on the bottom.

When we go to the polls to elect our political representatives, for example, there are no co-prime ministers, mayors or premiers. The candidate who gets the most votes wins the office, even if it's by single digits.

In sports, the prospect that a contest can result in neither a winner nor a loser reduces and indeed

ruins the incentive for teams or individual athletes to win. It rewards mediocrity.

Case in point: some leagues, like the NFL and the NHL, actually reward teams for not winning their games. It's kind of like the purple "participation" ribbon you receive as a kid during activity day at elementary school.

However, the reason why it's okay for children to be rewarded for not winning is because at that young age, the ramifications for being declared a loser can have a damaging psychological effect on their self-esteem. It's important for adults to stress that winning isn't everything and that the world isn't over if they lose. Just because you lose a game doesn't make you a loser in life. For teenage and adult athletes however, the reality is that, as Vince Lombardi famously said, "Winning isn't everything; it's the only thing."

There are also those who complain that overtime formats such as shootouts or penalty kicks are

unfair ways of deciding matches and cheapen the final result. However, the clear message that these tiebreakers send to competitors is simple: don't want to lose in a crapshoot shootout? Win in the time allotted to you during regulation. This is especially true when you have teams that adopt a 'play not to lose' mentality, which can result in overly reserved and defensive play, making the contest frustratingly boring for players and spectators.

To tie all this together, everyone knows the best sound in sports is the buzzer — or the deafening silence that follows — after the winning team clinches game seven in the Stanley Cup playoffs with a goal in the fifth round of overtime.

Ties are just a waste of everybody's time and can result in a subdued effort by competitors if they know they don't have to win to be rewarded.

As former New York Jets head coach Herm Edwards so rightfully stated, "You play to win the game! You don't play to just play it!"

The world ends on December 21st and once it's gone, you'll never have the chance to write for sports again, and I'll never find out who's a good boy.

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The best moments in 2012's wide world of sports



Sports Staff
GROUP COMMENTARY

This week, *The Gateway's* sports staff reminisce about the moments in 2012 that stand out to them as fans. They would have made this year a memorable one if it wasn't for the apocalypse coming to destroy us all later this month.

Cameron Lewis

If the world ends on Dec. 21, many professional athletes will go up in flames happy that they got their droning 'firsts' out of the way before it was too late.

LeBron James finally won an NBA title, freeing himself from being known as 'the guy who can't finish' — a title that plagued him since his high school days. The L.A. Kings finally won their first Stanley Cup, becoming the first hockey team to capture the imagination of Los Angeles.

But for me, the most memorable moment of 2012 was Andy Murray's historic victory at the London Summer Olympics. Here's a little background: Murray had always been 'that guy' who just couldn't win the big one. He'd been trapped behind either Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic or Rafael Nadal for a decade in the world rankings, with no grand slam victories to show for his efforts.

Earlier this year in July, the Brit made it to the finals of Wimbledon in front of his home crowd for the first time in his career, only to be defeated by the seemingly invincible Roger Federer, who captured his eighth career championship on the famous grass court. This was a huge loss for Murray, who had the chance to become the first Brit to capture Wimbledon since Fred Perry in 1936.

Just shortly after Wimbledon, Murray was back in action in front of his home crowd, but this time on an even bigger national stage: the Olympic Games. In the gold medal match, Murray redeemed himself in front of his fellow Brits, defeating Federer and capturing Olympic Gold. This marked the first time in Murray's career that he was able to win a major title in tennis, finally losing his championship virginity at the biggest stage imaginable.

Jonathan Faerber

If there were an official record for number of record-breaking sporting achievements in a single year, 2012 would take the cake. This year saw many historic moments, from Olympian Usain Bolt breaking his own 100-metre world standard for



SUPPLIED

a record second time in a row to Sebastian Vettel breaking his own record to become the world's youngest triple F1 winner. But the event 2012 will be remembered for was Spain's men's soccer team breaking multiple records with three consecutive international championships.

On July 1 in Kiev, Ukraine, Spain became the first men's soccer team to win back-to-back European Football Championships and the first team to win three major footballing events in a row after their 2010 World Cup victory. Earlier in the competition, Spain had to scramble to secure a 1-1 result against an incredible Italian team. In the final, Spain's young talent stood up to the test with a dominating performance, while Italy was unable to stand their ground. The team was impeccable on the day, never making a wrong move, and hardly ever letting Italy make any move whatsoever. They reminded the world of soccer legend Zinedine Zidane's now-famous words: "The day Spain begins winning, they'll never stop." Perfection is indeed possible, people.

That's what makes this achievement so dramatic: Spain hadn't won anything until six years ago, and now they're already the most invincible international team this sport, and perhaps any sport, has ever seen. As if that's not impressive enough, an emphatic 4-0 demolition of an experienced Italian team made it look like they were just

getting started. Even if they never win anything ever again, we'll look back at July 1 as the day Spain etched their names into the annals of sporting history. Chances are, though, that they'll never look back.

Nicola Flynn

For me, the most memorable moment in sports of 2012 is the Toronto Argonauts winning the 100th Grey Cup 35-22 over the Calgary Stampeders.

Don't get me wrong: I am not at all a Toronto Argonauts fan. However, I am a die-hard Saskatchewan Roughriders fan and a strong believer in the ABC rule (Anybody But Calgary). Not that I dislike Calgary, I just like every other team much more. The real reason is because after the Riders lost in the division semi-finals, I figured the Argos might as well win the championship in their hometown, especially if it's the 100th year.

It's even better that the Argos were accused of stacking their team in order to win the Grey Cup in Toronto, because how convenient is it to get supposedly the best quarterback in the CFL right before your team is hosting the Grey Cup? And, come on, what is CFL Football without some scandal?

So even though the hype for the Grey Cup isn't anywhere near where it is for the Super Bowl, I will be watching Nov. 24, 2013 and hopefully

be cheering the Riders to victory at Taylor Field in Mosaic Stadium.

Atta Almasi

The biggest story in pro sports from 2012 actually began on a summer evening in early July 2010, when the NBA's best player announced to his hometown and to the whole world he was taking his talents to South Beach.

When LeBron James chose to leave the hometown team that had drafted him to join USA Basketball teammate and friend Dwyane Wade on the Miami Heat, the decision shocked and angered many fans around the Great Lakes area, culminating in the burning of jerseys and angry social media posts. The fact that three out of the four top draft picks from what was arguably the deepest draft in NBA history in 2003 chose to unite to form a super team led some to believe that a dangerous precedent was being set, where talented players playing in small markets would simply pack up when their contracts were up and flee to bigger markets.

So it was to the disappointment of few and the enjoyment of many when the Heat lost the NBA Finals in six games to the Dallas Mavericks. They proved to many that Cleveland Cavaliers owner Mark Gilbert was correct in his analysis that there were no shortcuts to a championship. LeBron's biggest critics,

including ESPN's Skip Bayless, began to wonder if "LeBrick" would be able to overcome his "Frozen One" status from last year's Finals and finally win an NBA ring.

The stage was set for a dramatic finish the next season, and the Heat were able to pick up where they left off as the top team in the Eastern Conference. When the Heat faced the small market team, the Oklahoma City Thunder, a team that had captured the loyalty of NBA fans for "doing it right" by building through the draft as opposed to signing free agents away from other teams, LeBron emerged as the MVP-type player he had been expected to be since he entered the league, leading his team to a 4-1 series win. This finally silenced his critics, forcing even the critical Bayless to concede that "Prince" James had finally become a "King."

Curtis Auch

My favourite sports moment this year wasn't a goal, touchdown, or championship of any kind. It was a lottery — the NHL draft lottery, to be exact, held on April 10. It was to decide which of the league's five worst teams would have the first overall pick in the draft, and by extension, the chance to draft dynamic Sarnia Sting forward Nail Yakupov.

I remember it well. I was standing in the SUB food court, glancing nervously as I received live updates on my phone. Toronto at fifth. New York at fourth. Montreal at third. No surprises. The first pick belonged to either the last-place Columbus Blue Jackets or the second-last Edmonton Oilers. Finally, staring down at my phone, I read the most important words of all: The number one overall selection in the 2012 NHL draft belongs to... the Edmonton Oilers. "Yes!" I cried, jumping three feet in the air. A few people gave me odd looks, but I didn't care.

That lottery win marked the third year in a row that the Oilers received the first overall pick. Some called it a travesty that such a feat was even possible.

Most simply scoffed at us Oiler acolytes, arguing this proved we were fans of the worst team in history. I merely smiled and laughed. After all, the Quebec Nordiques had a similar experience drafting first overall from 1989 to 1991 before winning the Stanley Cup as the Colorado Avalanche in 1996.

Was it luck? Was it a mistake? Was it Tambellini rigging the lottery machine? Nay, none of those — it was destiny. And with the drafting of Yakupov, the last piece of that destiny was complete. Truly, this lottery win signified that the Hockey Gods are with us.

Keep the faith, my friends. Keep the faith.



Diversions

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ID & EGO by Lauren Alston



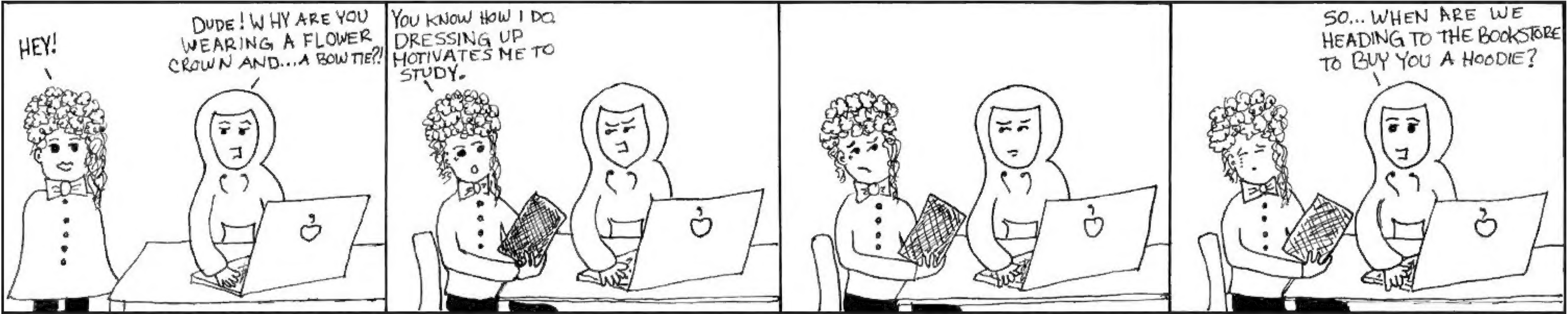
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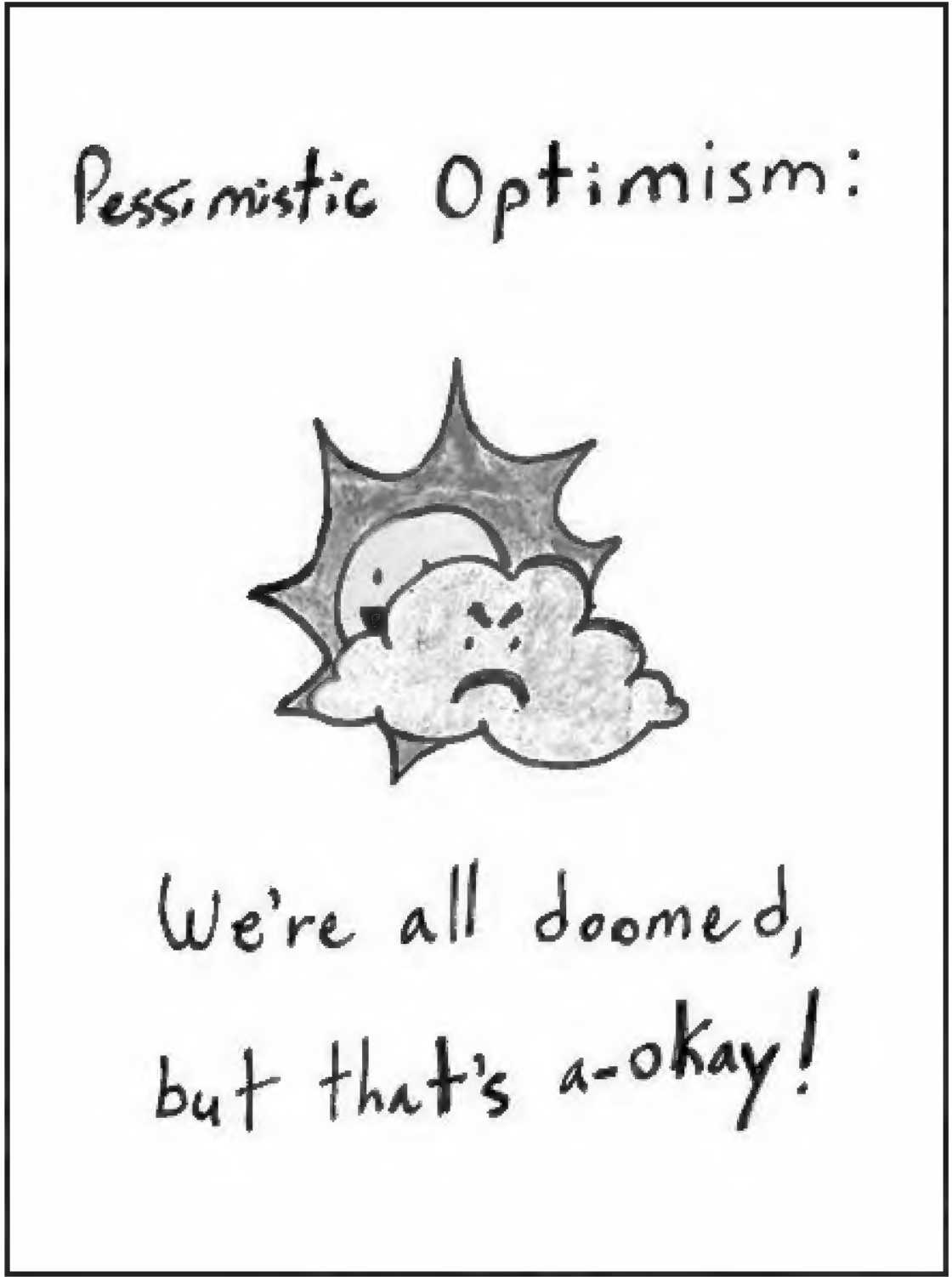
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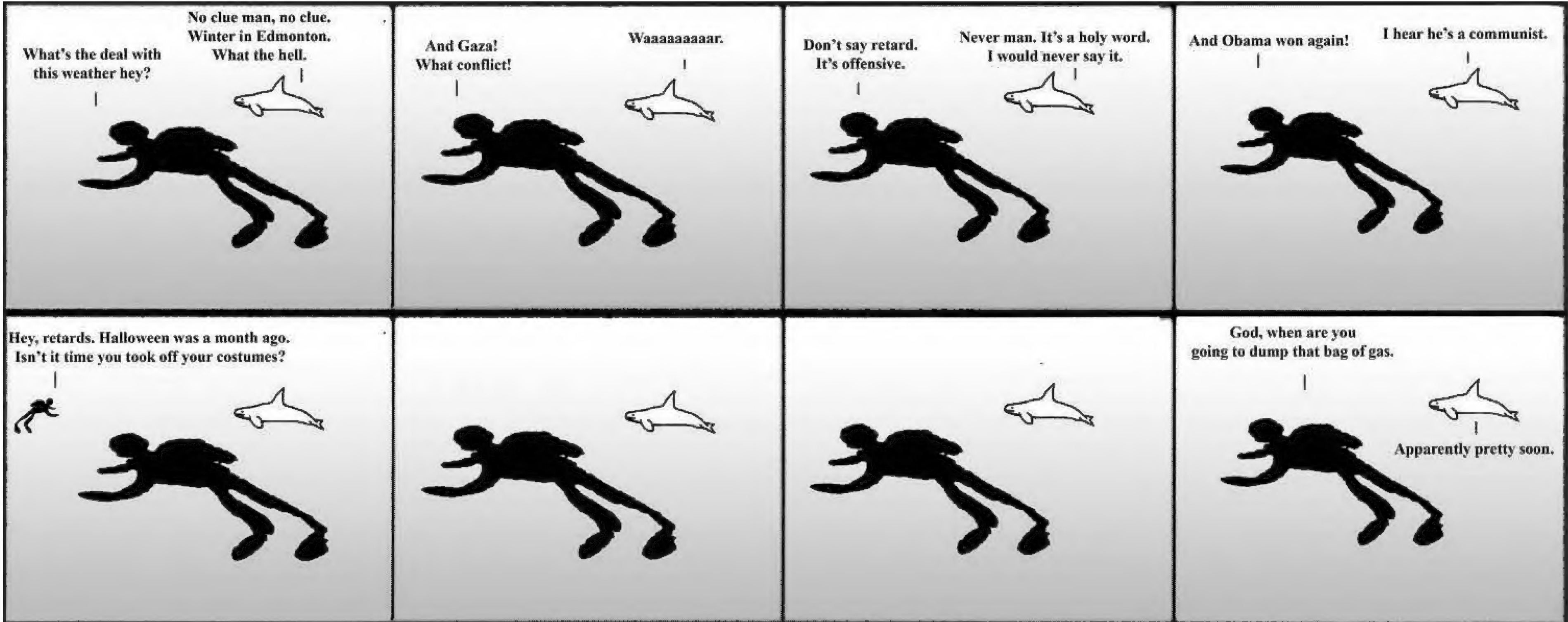
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askDr. Donna

WRITTEN BY Dr. Donna Cave



I'm going to give you a choice of three diets — pick one. Diet number one: Christmas cookies and Coke. Diet number two: chicken wings and beer. Diet number three: exclusively raw fruits, raw veggies and water.

In a bizarre way, there is some appeal to all of these. The carb-heavy diet number one you will recognize as Santa's, or at least the Coca-Cola ad agency's version. Who wouldn't want to eat shortbread three times a day? Protein and carb diet number two represents more university students that you can count, usually male. For variety, occasionally Kraft Dinner surfaces on special occasions. Diet number three? One staff member's attempt to lose weight. This seems intuitively the healthiest pick, but actually led to nutritional deficiencies different but no better than those of diets numbers one and two.

Are we meant to be omnivores, herbivores or carnivores? When did Doritos become a pantry staple?

When did Coke replace milk? Why is the average North American BMI greater than Santa's? Why have U of A students surfaced with nutritional deficiencies not seen outside of the third world? When did we lose sight of what a normal diet is?

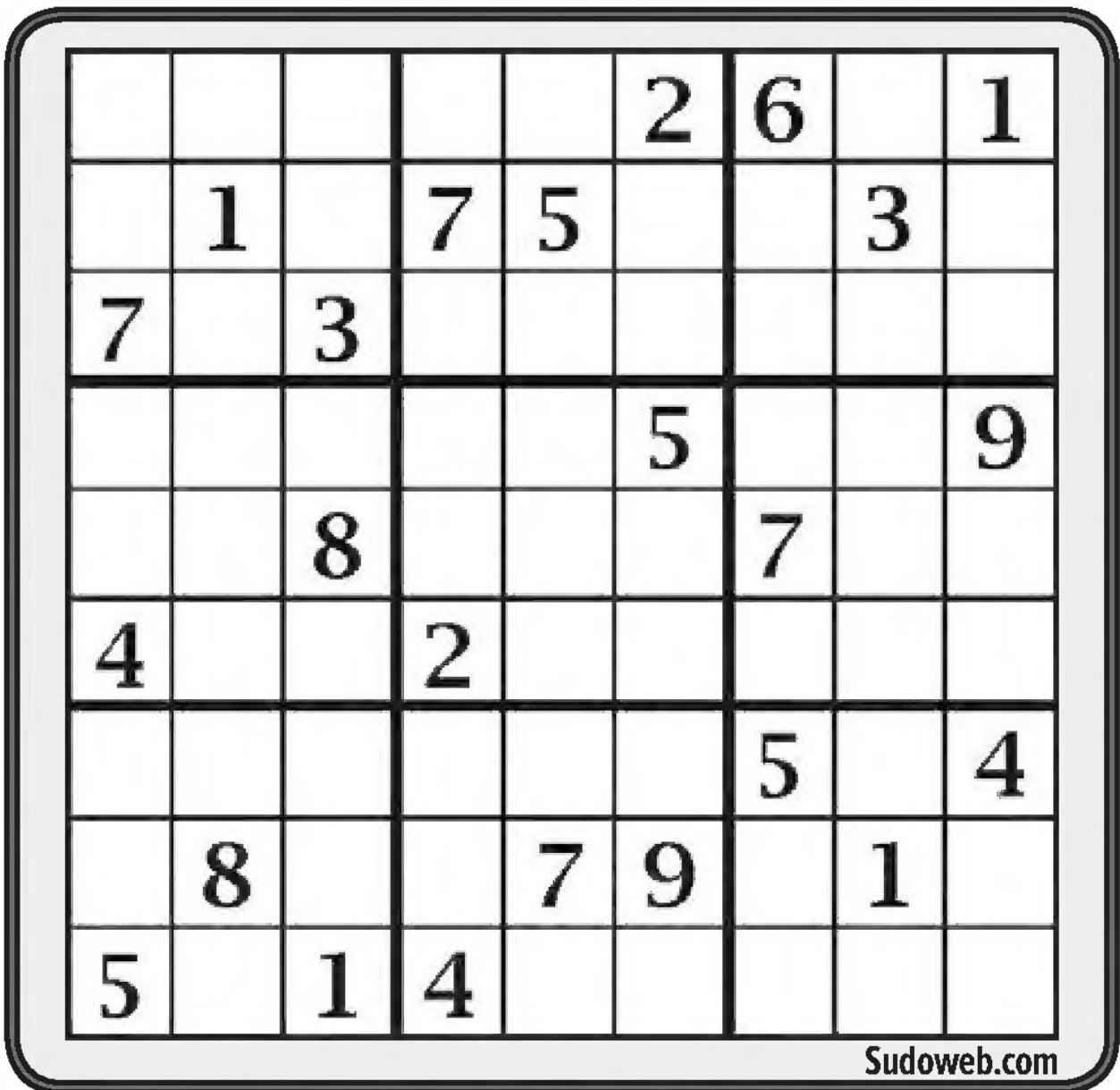
In an attempt to help, the Canadian government asked us all to eat like a rainbow, with the biggest arc representing carbohydrates. This plan apparently surfaced during quality control testing of government-grown, medical-grade pot, as the only thing that seems likely to eat a rainbow is a unicorn. Most of us have trouble remembering the order of the colours in a rainbow, never mind associating them with a food group. In an even worse attempt and confirming suspicion that LSD experiments are still being carried out, the US government asked folks to eat like a pyramid, with the base being carbohydrates. Toblerone aside, who the heck associates food with pyramids? What happened after these great ideas were put forward? More and more sightings of the Goodyear blimp. It turned out that carb-heavy diets were a big, fat disaster.

So how can you feed your mind and

body well through the current season of testing and into the upcoming season of feasting? Here's a simple guide, and this time the Americans have got it right. Our friends to the south have gone back to the simple concept of dividing a plate into sections. Your plate should be half fruits and veggies, one quarter carbohydrates, and one quarter meat or meat substitutes. Ideally the carbs should be whole grain and the meat should be low fat. The image also includes a glass of milk on the side, representing our need for calcium. The only thing missing is 1,000 I.U. of Vitamin D daily that we should take as supplements, given our northern location. If you need to lose weight, use a smaller plate. How brilliant is that?

Next time you order chicken wings, get a side of veggies and dip. When you reach for those gingerbread cookies, have a glass of milk and a mandarin orange with them. Rediscover that grapes exist in non-fermented varieties.

Have you got health and wellness questions for Dr. Donna? E-mail them to askdrdonna@gateway.ualberta.ca or click the "Ask Dr. Donna" header at thegatewayonline.ca. Anonymous and confidential. Still not too late to get your flu shot at the UHC pharmacy or clinic!



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MIRROR Sulphur mountain viewed from the vermillion lakes on a lovely summer morning. YIFENG LIU



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